

Petition for Transparent Government & Appropriate Funding

DSHS recently told Western State Hospital employees that the CSM Consultants had **mandated** the implementation of a multimillion dollar per year administrative expansion in the form of 28 Ward Administrators (Washington Management Services employees) within their recently submitted **secret** (unreleased to the public) **report** (which was funded by tax dollars) for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services pursuant to a Systems Improvement Agreement. Labor Unions were told that it was mandatory that the administrative expansion occur, therefore its implementation was **NOT** subject to mandatory reporting and negotiation as an extensive change in work conditions.

DSHS failed to release the CSM Consultant report to allow Western State Hospital employees, Labor Unions, and the Legislature to view the exact language that allegedly **mandated** (and justified) the implementation of the massive expansion of Administration **in lieu of** funding sufficient permanent full time direct patient care employees to null out daily overtime, mandatory overtime, as well as eliminate the need for non-permanent on-call and agency employees. Western State Hospital cannot currently operate without daily use of overtime, on-call, and agency personnel. Mandatory overtime events occur regularly. Even with recent increases of full time positions, the numbers are inadequate.

We, the employees of Western State Hospital, demand that the Legislature and Office of Financial Management **not** fund any form of expansion of Western State Hospital administration, administration support personnel, or other form of expansion of Washington Management Services personnel until sufficient permanent direct patient care positions, custodial care positions, and food aid positions are **fully** funded at sufficient levels to null out regular required overtime use, allowing for the elimination of non-permanent on-call and agency personnel that are not part of the Western State Hospital basic staffing budget. It is the direct patient care staffing budget that requires immediate attention and priority for Western State Hospital to be successful in accreditation and CMS certification.

We, the employees of Western State Hospital, demand a full investigation of all personnel that were involved in falsely stating that a secret CSM Consultant report mandated a multimillion dollar a year expansion of administrators **when it did not**. We believe that keeping the taxpayer paid CSM Consultant report secret from the Public, Legislature and the Legislative Oversight Committee for Western State Hospital was a component of illegal election year politics which also requires a full investigation by agencies other than DSHS.

We, the employees of Western State Hospital, demand that our Labor Unions strongly oppose the creation of additional administration to perform duties which current treatment team members **already** perform. We remind DSHS that Eastern State Hospital did not require Ward Administrator expansion to become fully accredited. We point out that similar redundant administrative positions were eliminated years ago from WSH while accreditation and certification was successfully maintained.

We, the employees of Western State Hospital, demand that DSHS inform its personnel **immediately** of any future “voluntary” withdrawal of accreditation or certification in lieu of DSHS keeping the withdrawal secret while knowingly advertising that it was fully accredited to the public and job seekers. This act taken by DSHS must be investigated by an agency other than DSHS.

We, the employees of Western State Hospital, ask that Western State become a true “hospital” under the law, thus providing all the legal protections and reporting relationships required of all other true hospitals within Washington. We ask that Western State Hospital become a fully licensed facility through the Department of Health as are all true hospitals within Washington. This change will assure that Western State Hospital will maintain TJC and CMS accreditation and certification.

