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UMC Workers Are Eager to Work Together with New CEO to Ensure High Quality Healthcare for All

Following the announcement that Jacob Cintron has been named Chief Executive Officer of the University Medical Center (UMC) of El Paso, Robyn Wylie, a respiratory therapist at UMC and El Paso resident, issued the following statement. Wylie, who has worked at UMC for 13 years, spoke on behalf of the many UMC employees — Including nursing assistants, environmental services workers, surgical technicians and others — who have been uniting in the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Texas:

"UMC employees have formed a union with SEIU Texas to forge a partnership to ensure the highest quality healthcare at our hospital. We are excited that Jacob Cintron has been hired as the new CEO of UMC because, like us, he has demonstrated a commitment to El Paso and to expanding access to quality healthcare for all El Pasoans.

"Also, in talking to our colleagues at Del Sol Medical Center, we know he has a track record of respecting workers' choice to form a union and of building relationships between union workers and management. We look forward to working with him to provide the best possible care to the community we all love."

Since 2010, more than 1,500 healthcare workers at three El Paso hospitals — Providence Memorial Hospital, Del Sol Medical Center and Las Palmas Medical Center — have voted to formally unite in SEIU Texas. Working together through the union, they have negotiated contracts that have raised standards for workers and patients at their facilities. For example, SEIU Texas members at Providence established a committee in their new contract that will enhance communication with management and ensure that patients can benefit from the expertise of front-line healthcare workers.

SEIU Texas unites janitors, food service workers, hospital employees and county/municipal employees from across our state. We live and work in Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Houston, San Antonio and Hidalgo County. The work we do touches everyone in our communities. We clean the offices of some the world's largest corporations, administer frontline healthcare in our hospitals and provide the public services we all need.