



Dear UFCW Local 919 Brothers & Sisters:

I am excited to share that UFCW Local 919 will be joining Marc Perrone & the UFCW International office in embarking on a new endeavor with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS). As you may know, UFCW is the longest standing partner of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and has raised over \$83 million over 35 years, funding lifesaving blood cancer research.

In 2017, The United Food and Commercial Workers union will be launching “Labor Against Cancer.” We are proud to say that we are hosting this new initiative that will offer all in the organized labor community the opportunity to make their mark in the fight to end blood cancers.

UFCW Local 919 has accepted this challenge, and I am asking for your help to ensure that we are as successful as we want, and need, to be. One of the ways that we will be participating is a member drive. This will be a crucial part of our success. You will be offered the opportunity to make a donation and to ask friends and family members to donate as well. The funds you raise will make an impact on those fighting cancers now and for years to come. My hope is that we achieve 100% member participation.

How will your participation make a difference? LLS exists to find cures and ensure access to treatments for blood cancer patients. They are the voice for all blood cancer patients and they work to ensure access to treatments for all who are facing these diseases.

#### **Research**

As there are no means of preventing or early screening for most blood cancers, the LLS research agenda is focused on finding cures. LLS drives research in areas of unmet medical need, and helps to bridge the gap between academic discovery and drug development.

#### **Patient Access**

LLS is the leading source of free, highly specialized blood cancer information, education and support for patients, survivors, families and healthcare professionals. LLS provides financial assistance to those struggling to pay for transportation to and from treatment, as well as help in covering healthcare co-pay costs within the organized labor community and beyond.

#### **Policy and Advocacy**

Because LLS recognizes that finding cures is not enough, they work to ensure that patients have access to the treatments, services and providers they need to live longer, better, healthier lives. LLS is dedicated to removing barriers to care.

Thank you,

Mark A. Espinosa

President