CCC Minimum Wage Campaign Kick off!

Over the next year, we want to build movement of UUs and our allies to change the conditions of millions of workers, including raising the minimum wage.

This webinar is our kick off event!
Thanks for joining us!
We will be with you shortly!



CCC Minimum Wage Campaign Kick off!

Hosted by:
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
Presenters:
Susan Leslie, UUA
Kara Smith, UUSC



Objectives and Topics:

- Provide participants with an overview of the minimum wage and who it affects
- The moral imperative of UUs being involved
- Overview of the trajectory of the minimum wage work and plans for the campaign
- Resources that the UUA and UUSC have created



Economic Justice Human Rights Framework

All people have the right to work, to safe and healthy working conditions, to equal pay for equal work, and the right to organize, ensuring for themselves and their families an existence worthy of human dignity.

Adapted from articles 23 and 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



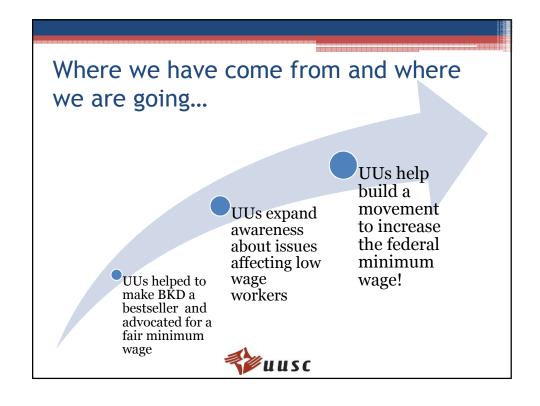
Choose Compassionate Consumption



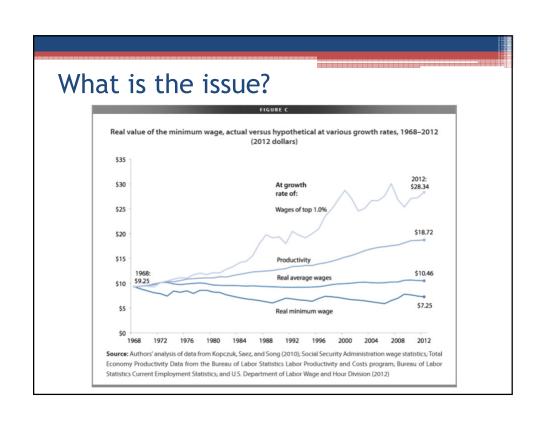
I have power as a consumer and I pledge to use that power to promote workers' rights.

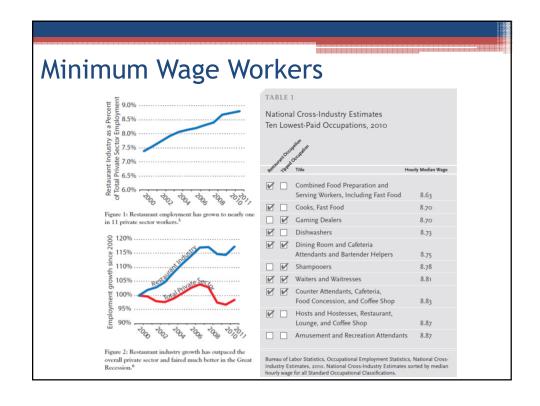
I pledge to choose compassionate consumption and shop with my values in mind!

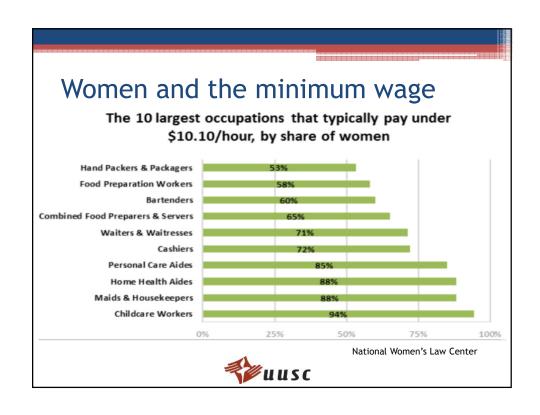


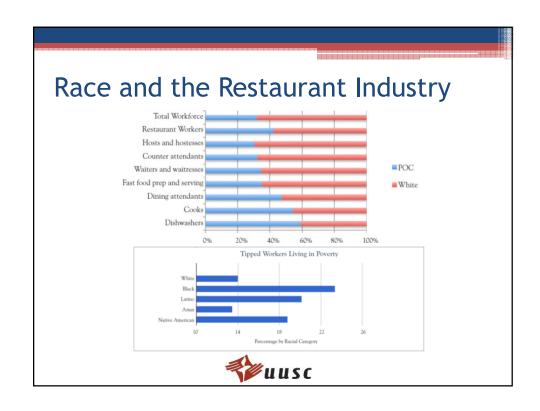














Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2013

Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA), and Rep. George Miller (D-CA), introduced

- Federal minimum wage of \$10.10 by 2015—three steps of 95 cents each.
- Keep pace with the rising cost of living indexing in 2016
- Raise the minimum wage for tipped workers— 70%



Who would this affect?

- More than 30 million workers would get a raise
- 56% are women; 71% of tipped workers are women
- Approx. half are workers of color
- More than 17 million children have a parent who would get a raise





Myth #1: these are teenagers

- Only 16% of workers affected by this bill are teenagers
- 88% of people making minimum wage are over the age of twenty
- The average affected worker brought home approx. 49% of their household's income



Myth #2: It would hurt the economy

- The FMWA would generate:
 - More than \$32 billion in new economic activity
 - 140,000 full time jobs
- Consumer spending is 70% of US economic activity
 - More money in their pocket, more money to spend



Myth #3: It would hurt small business

- 2/3 of these workers work for large companies (employers of more than 100 people)
- 50 largest employers of low wage workers:
- 92% profitable last year
- 78% profitable for the last three years
- 75 % higher revenues now than before the recession
- \$9.4 million—average top executive salary
- \$174.8 billion to shareholders



National Employment Law Project



Myth #4: Restaurant Workers don't need a raise!

- 7 of the 10 lowest paying jobs in our economy are in the restaurant industry—the two absolute lowest
- Median income of servers is \$8.92
- Servers are 3x more likely to live in poverty—2x as likely to need food stamps



Myth #5: If there is a raise to the minimum wage, food costs would skyrocket...

A dime a day ...



Even if 100% of the cost was passed on to consumers!



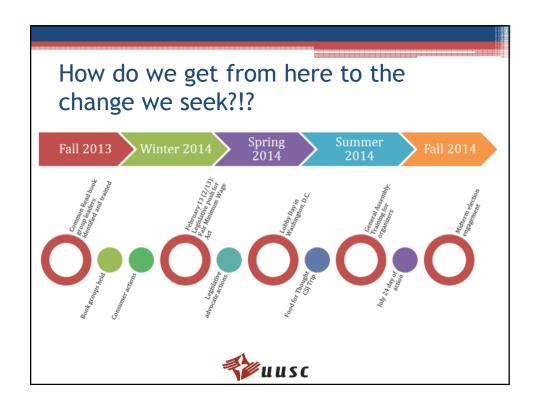
Why we need to get involved!



"We tend to treat changes in the economy as if they were like the weather—natural phenomena governed by forces beyond our control. Nothing could be further from the truth. We have chosen to live in a society with high unemployment and with income distribution that is becoming medieval. A tiny percentage of Americans owns most of the wealth. Meanwhile millions of willing and able people are without work. This did not just happen. We created this situation." —Universalist Association (ULLA) President Rev

—Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President Rev. Peter Morales





What we are asking you to do:

- 1. Share the joint UUA/UUSC Minimum Wage— A moral imperative statement with members of your congregation—ask them to sign on!
- 2. Plan your *Behind the Kitchen Door* discussion/action group
- 3. Download the UUA discussion guide and order the UUSC Community Coordinator tool kit (coming soon)
- 4. Sign up for the UUSC Activists Facebook Group for updates



Resources

- UUA Common Read Discussion Guide
- UUSC CCC Community Coordinator Tool Kit
- Monthly actions
- Monthly updates and calls
- Micro-grants
- General Assembly





Resources and Citations

- National Women's Law Center http://www.nwlc.org/resource/10-largest-jobs-paying-under-1010hour-are-majority-women
- Economic Policy Institute Briefing Paper
 http://www.epi.org/publication/bp357-federal-minimum-wage-increase/
- Realizing The Dream: How the Minimum Wage Impacts Racial Equity in the Restaurant Industry and in America http://rocunited.org/realizing-the-dream
- National Employment Law Project
 http://www.nelp.org/page/-/rtmw/NELP-FMWA-2013-Fact-Sheet-030413.pdf?nocdn=1:
 http://nelp.3cdn.net/e555b2e361f8f734f4 sim6btdzo.pdf
- The Real Faces of the Minimum Wage www.commondreams.org

