

# Let's get the job done

## WORKING WOMEN FOR CHANGE



Women Employed

Millions of women, despite working full-time year-round, earn too little to support themselves and their families and lack access to basic benefits such as paid sick and family leave.

Working Women for Change, an initiative of Women Employed, brings together corporate and civic leaders who are committed to re-energizing the drive for economic advancement for women by addressing this challenge.

### ***Our Vision***

We envision a day when every woman who works full time earns enough to afford the basics of life and care for her family. We believe that:

- All work is worthy of recognition and respect.
- All workers deserve fair compensation.
- All workers need time off that they can take without fear of retribution.
- All workers deserve respect for their home and family commitments.
- All people must have access to health care, regardless of what they do or where they work.

Our commitment to fair employment and economic security for all is rooted in the conviction that it is in everyone's interest to ensure that work is rewarded fairly and that every working family can afford the basics of life. The problem of low-wage work is a problem for all of us. It's time to work together and create a better future for all our families and communities.

### ***Our Campaign for Paid Sick Leave***

At some point, everyone will need time off from work because of illness or a family emergency. Yet millions of working women don't have sick leave and too often must choose between losing their jobs and meeting the needs of their families. When people come to work sick they jeopardize their own health and that of their co-workers. In addition, parents are often forced to send their children to school sick because they can't afford to stay home from work.

Working Women for Change is launching a three-year campaign to substantially increase the number of low-wage workers that have access to paid sick time. We will:

- Work to ensure that sick time is paid, covers all employees regardless of job status, and can be used for illness and family care without retaliation.
- Work with industries that employ large numbers of low-wage workers to ensure that they provide paid sick leave to all workers.
- Compile and publicize best practices for fair policies, and recognize businesses that implement those practices.
- Develop innovative ideas for providing paid sick leave to all employees.
- Monitor practices to ensure that sick leave is not just a paper benefit, but that workers are really able to use it when they need it.
- Promote legislation and regulation in Illinois to ensure that everyone has access to paid sick leave.

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***You can help us spread the word*** and build support for public- and private-sector changes. For more information on Women Employed and Working Women for Change, visit [www.womenemployed.org](http://www.womenemployed.org).