



Women Employed

Work isn't working:

Low-wage American working women live in poverty.

- One-third of all U.S. women who work full-time, year-round – 15 million women – earn less than \$25,000 a year.
- A full-time, minimum-wage worker with a family of three earns \$10,712 a year.
- 41% of full-time working women who are raising children earn less than \$30,000 a year.

Low-wage jobs lack basic benefits like paid sick days.

- More than 22 million working women do not have paid sick days.
- 77% of the lowest-paid workers have no paid sick leave at all.

The number of low-wage jobs is growing.

- Four of the top 10 occupations expected to have the largest real job growth through 2014 pay \$28,589 or less per year. All four occupations are female-dominated: home health aides, medical assistants, dental assistants, and personal and home care aides.

Addressing the challenges facing

low-paid women workers benefits all of society.

- With better pay and adequate benefits, parents will be better able to provide their children with the basics of life and prepare them to be successful.
- With greater economic stability and the availability of educational supports, more Illinois adults will seek the post-secondary education and training important for their employment prospects and for the success of Illinois businesses that need skilled workers.

Women Employed is committed to improving compensation, workplace conditions, and educational opportunities for low-paid workers in Illinois and nationwide.

For more information, contact:

[Rebecca Wellisch](mailto:rwellisch@womenemployed.org), Director of Marketing and Communications, 312.782.3902 x222,
rwellisch@womenemployed.org

[Kristina Francisco](mailto:kfrancisco@womenemployed.org), Communications Associate, 312.782.3902 x239, kfrancisco@womenemployed.org

It's up to us.