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AN INITIATIVE OF HOUSE THE HOMELESS, INC.

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Soon there will be an action like this in at least one city in every state at Post Offices all over America. People are calling for economic justice and to **fix the Federal Minimum Wage**. This will end homelessness for over 1 million minimum wage workers.

### What's the Tax Day Connection?

We have found that American business has grown to rely on government subsidies to pick up that portion of the basic wage that they have failed to provide. **See- If Walmart Paid Its Employees a Living Wage, How Much Would Prices Go Up?** <http://goo.gl/1nKbS7>



Workers have been forced in ever increasing numbers to depend on food stamps, general assistance, TANF and even the Earned Income Tax Credit. Congress intended these to be emergency, stop gap measures. Instead, many businesses have used these government supports to meet basic payroll. A national shift is occurring from the business responsibility of paying a "fair wage for a fair day's work" to creating an ever increasing burden on the tax payer.

*We know that if business paid its employees a fair living wage, we could dramatically reduce the burden to tax payers.*

### Universal Living Wage:

- **based on a Moral Premise:** Anyone working a 40 hour week (be it from one job or more) they should be able to afford basic rental housing wherever that work is done throughout the US.
- spend no more than 30% of your income on housing (HUD & national banking standard)
- it utilizes the HUD Fair Market Rents (FMRs) which are reviewed annually
- the Universal Living Wage is **indexed to the local cost of housing** throughout the U.S.
- a person willing/able to work a 40 hour week can afford basic rental housing: be it Austin, Boston, or LA etc.
- stimulates the development of truly affordable rental housing and infuses the local and national economies with new money
- prevents economic homelessness for all 10.1 minimum wage workers
- will end homelessness for over 1,000,000 minimum wage workers

*Note- While some cities have raised their minimum wage, without indexing it to our basic needs, we will be fighting the same economic battle again and again because **housing** in the single most expensive item in the budget; therefore, **we index the wage to housing.***

Organizations & Individuals are urged to **Log on and Sign the Petition!** [www.UniversalLivingWage.org](http://www.UniversalLivingWage.org)

In Unity There is Strength,  
Richard R. Troxell- National Chairman

Local Organization & Contact: