



## 9to5 California WORKING WOMEN NEWS

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### Winter 2010 Calendar

**Monthly Chapter Meetings in San Jose:**

2302 Zanker Road, San Jose, Ca 95131  
 Time: 10AM, Saturday  
 Upcoming: **Jan 23; Feb 27; Mar 27**

**Monthly Chapter Meetings in Los Angeles:**

6330 Meham Way, Los Angeles, CA 90043  
 Time: 3 PM Sunday  
 Upcoming: **Jan 24; Feb 21; Mar 28**

Jan 25      9to5 Workshop: Workplace Rights!  
 Hyde Park Library, Los Angeles  
 6:00 PM Monday FREE!

May 21 - 24      9to5 National D.C. ANNUAL  
 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Feb 25      Working Family Policy Summit  
 Keynote: Hilda Solis, US DOL  
 Sacramento, Ca  
 Carpool from San Jose

March 8      9to5 Workshop: Workplace Rights!  
 Eagle Rock Library, Los Angeles  
 6:00 PM Monday FREE!

Mar 13      9to5 Bay Area Spaghetti Feed &  
 Women's History Month Presentation  
 Sunnyhills United Methodist Church  
 455 Dixon Road, Milpitas, CA  
 6:00 PM Saturday \$10 Donation

April 5      9to5 Workshop: Workplace Rights!  
 Venice Library, Venice, CA  
 6:00 PM Monday FREE

April 10      6<sup>th</sup> Annual REGIONAL  
 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE  
 9AM-1PM Saturday  
 2302 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA

**FACT Foundation Hosts 9to5 Funders Briefing**  
 San Francisco, November 17, 2009



**SAVE THE DATES BELOW !**

April 26 & 27      6<sup>th</sup> Annual RLC Sacramento  
**POLICY DAYS**  
**BUDGET ACTION**  
 Limited scholarships available

Rear from left: Myra Thornell, CA Women's Foundation; Linda Vioria 9to5; Scott Ethelon, Agape Foundation; Linda Meric, 9to5 National Director; Christina DeHaro 9to5 Bay Area Chapter Chair; Janel Martinez, 9to5; Front from left; Cathy Deppe, 9to5 Organizer; Carol Arao, 9to5. -- Photo by Myra Bicknell, FACT Foundation

## **9to5 JOINS CAMPAIGN FOR A BETTER MILPITAS**

from the Milpitas Post, Dec. 10, 2009 Edition

### **Wal-Mart abuses rights**

Dear Editor,

Wal-Mart in Milpitas should not be allowed to replace good local jobs that pay living wages and health benefits with more Wal-Mart poverty-level jobs by expanding into a Super center.

Residents of Milpitas do not want to see friends and neighbors who work in good paying grocery store jobs be displaced by poorly treated Wal-Mart workers, one out of two whose children live without health care or rely on public assistance programs. In communities where Wal-Mart has opened or expanded, scores of smaller mom and pop stores have closed. Often these workers have no place else to work except for Wal-Mart at their poverty-level wages.

In 2008, Wal-Mart Inc. yearly profits passed \$13.4 billion, but workers see little of this gain. Women fill the majority of low-paid jobs and have for years faced gender discrimination. There are now more than 1.5 million female employees suing Wal-Mart for sex-based discrimination, the largest lawsuit ever filed in the United States. Chief plaintiff Betty Dukes herself worked for years at a Richmond, California Wal-Mart while being repeatedly passed over for training and promotion.

The City of Milpitas should not reward a company that flagrantly abuses women's rights by allowing it to grab an even bigger share of Milpitas dollars.

Daislyn Pease, Treasurer, 9to5 Bay Area,  
National Association of Working Women

Breaking Story: Demerit Wal-Mart

According to the N.Y. Times, Wal-Mart gives employees "demerits" if they call in sick – and demerits lead to termination. We think REAL demerits should go to Wal-Mart. TAKE ACTION: <http://www.wakeupwalmart.com>



Daislyn Pease, 9to5 Treasurer & Milpitas resident, speaks out on Wal-Mart at Milpitas Community Breakfast, January 9, 2010.

### **CAMPAIGN NEXT STEPS**

The City of Milpitas Planning Commission will Meet in February to hear PUBLIC COMMENT on the Wal-Mart expansion proposal. 9to5 will be there. TAKE ACTION: If you are a resident of Milpitas, please plan to join us at that meeting. Call 408-206-7992 and leave your name and number with Cathy Deppe, 9to5 Organizer, to be apprised of campaign updates.

The City Council of Milpitas will meet in March or April to hear the recommendations of the Planning Commission and put this issue to a council vote. Be sure to contact council members before this vote, to voice your concerns.



## 9to5 LOS ANGELES WELCOMES NEW INTERNS



My name is Monica Mitchell and I am a new Community Organizer for Los Angeles 9 to 5. I am currently in school to become a medical assistant. I am also a single mother with a four year old son named Sir Frederick. Being a single mother is very hard. There are so many sacrifices that I have had to make.

Learning about and working with 9 to 5 is a very big honor. I love to help others and give back to my community; that's why 9 to 5 means so much to me. The same beliefs 9to5 poses and cares about -- paid sick days, and equality in the work place -- I care about as well. Being a single mother responsible for a son with autism and asthma, I know paid sick days helps out a lot. I have been in the position of having to make a stressful decision whether to take my son to his doctors appointment, or miss a day of work which I could not afford. But my son does come first and I did get fired. No one should have that type of pressure on them. And that's why I stand with 9 to 5 for equality and fairness in the work place and in society.

I will be working with Michelle Herndon on voter registration and education - to encourage the community to vote for the candidates who agree with need for paid sick days in ALL work places.

Paid sick days won't just benefit me. They will benefit everyone who works, whether they work at a law firm or at a fast food restaurant. Everyone deserves this right. After my completion of schooling, I do plan to continue to be a part of 9 to 5, whether I will be paid or not.

Having the satisfaction of knowing I have rights and deserve to be treated equal and fair, is priceless!



My name is Michelle Herndon and I'm a new Community Organizer with 9to5. I am really excited to be here with you all! I have been out of the work force for over 3 years now to be with my son during his first few years of development. Being a single a mom I wanted to provide him with all the love and support I could before stepping back into the work force.

I believe it's my purpose to be here at 9to5. Over a month ago after I saw the movie MILK. Something really sparked my motivation to stand up for I what I believe. I knew that I could no longer sit and wait for justice or fairness to serve humanity. I realize I must now be part of a movement that's for change and equality. In the past I too experienced sexual harassment, discrimination, unfair pay and was wrongly terminated from my job once I spoke out about my mistreatment. I did not know about my rights or if I had any during that time, so I just found another job and tried to put those unfair experiences I endured in the work place behind me. Now I know and understand my rights and still find it unsettling that women are currently suffering and encountering the same unfairness I have as a result of being unaware of their rights.

Before I accepted this job with 9to5 I was adamant about doing work that I'm passionate about that will make a difference for everyone, especially my son's generation. I decided to take this semester off to focus on employment and personal growth. I will return to L.A. Trade Tech in the fall to continue my study in the Culinary Arts Program.

I am here for a purpose and that's to be with this movement that cares and educates women about the fairness and equality we all deserve while we go out and support our families. I look forward to working with you all.

***Save the Date!***

*The California Working Families  
Policy Summit 2010*

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis**

Hear taped message from Michelle Obama!

**Thursday, February 25, 2010**

Sacramento Convention Center

This year's summit will feature a briefing on California's severe and ongoing budget crisis. We will also look to the future – with proposals to preserve the safety net, build family economic security, and promote family-friendly workplaces.

Registration: [www.ccrwf.org](http://www.ccrwf.org)

Sponsored by: California Center for Research on Women and Families, Kate Karpillow, Dir.

**9to5 Bay Area**

**Welcomes DeAnza Student Volunteer**



Kanchana Swaminathan, our new Election Connection volunteer from DeAnza College Community Service with 9to5 trainer Janel Martinez  
-- Photo by Sylvia Gutierrez

WELCOME to our latest student volunteer from DeAnza College! Kanchana will be providing voter registration opportunities for classmates at DeAnza — as part of the college's Community Service Program.

If you are a student at DeAnza, consider earning your credits by volunteering to serve your community in this act of good citizenship.

***Save the Date!***

*9to5 Sixth Annual 2010  
Regional Leadership Conference  
& Policy Action Days*

Event: *Changing the Workplace, Changing the World*

Date: **Saturday, April 10, 2010**

Place: 2302 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA 95131

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Agenda:** Panel Discussion and Workshops:  
Wage Theft Discrimination, Health Care Reform, Protecting the Safety Net for Working Moms, and More!

Luncheon

**Invited Guests:**

**Cindy Chavez, Executive Officer of South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council**

**Jim Beall, California State Assemblyman**

Event: *April Action Days*

Dates: **Monday, April 26**

**and Tuesday April 27, 2010**

Carpool – San Jose to Sacramento.

Limited scholarships available to 9to5 from the event organizer, California

Partnership. **Protest State Budget Cuts**

Registration: please contact 9to5 by telephone, fax or mail. Online registration information will be available on March 1, 2010 at [www.9to5California.org](http://www.9to5California.org).

Sponsorships: We appreciate sponsorship donations in any amount. Sponsors will be acknowledged in program and are encouraged to set up an information table on April 10. Paid program ads are available. Contact 9to5 for more information.



Hollywood Awards Day: Schwarzenegger Wins Award for WORST GOVERNOR, Jan 8 — Photo by Astrid Campos

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**Want to help with Equal Pay Day preparation?**

Call 9to5 in San Jose or Los Angeles!

We'll be assembling 3/4-cookie bags for high school teachers to use in April when teaching lessons about the women's wage gap.

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The Governor's Release of the 2010-2011 State Budget on January 8<sup>th</sup> is loaded with devastating cuts to vital health and human services programs. Once again, the governor has targeted those most vulnerable, including women and families in the CalWORKS program, low-income children, and the disabled.

His budget relies heavily on an assumption that the federal government will give California \$6.9 billion dollars. If this does not happen, he states this will automatically trigger the following cuts:

- Elimination of the CalWORKS Program
- Elimination of the IHSS (In Home Support Services)
- Elimination of the Healthy Families Program, which insures 875,000 children.
- Lowering of Medi-Cal eligibility to federal minimum.

Even with federal aid, the governor still proposes to reduce CalWORKS by \$269 million, a 15.7 percent cut in grants. A maximum grant for a family of three will go down \$109 a month, from \$694 a month to \$586, effective June 1, 2010. The Child Care & Development Programs will face reductions of \$200 million.

Join 9to5 and other groups in the California Partnership on April 26&27 in Sacramento to act against such cuts. More information inside!