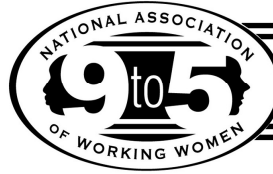


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ATLANTA NEWSLINE

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FALL 2009

NEXT...

SAVE THE DATE SAT DECEMBER 12TH 3RD ANNUAL ATLANTA CHAPTER "WINTER SOCIAL"

COME JOIN US FOR A WINTER WIND DOWN AS WE CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2009 WITH MUSIC, LITE REFRESHMENTS, COCKTAILS AND A BRIEF MEMBER RECOGNITION CEREMONY

CALL TO RSVP 404.222.0037 TO ANY EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT 9T05'S WORK BY GIVING AT WWW.9T05.ORG

Atlanta CIP Program begins second season

The Atlanta Chapter is excited to announce that Jerret Johnson and Marilyn Winn are the chapters 2009-2010 Community Intern Project participants!

Both Jerret and Marilyn are new members, however their involvement with 9to5 has evolved over the past year. Jerret was originally introduced to the organization as a participant in the Job Retention Skills Workshops. She was so intrigued by the subject matter and the dialog she called the chapter Organizer and asked what else she and her 17 year old daughter more involved. Since that initial call Jerret has participated in voter outreach, media

training, GOTV and several chapter member/ committee meetings.

Marilynn met Director Cindia Cameron at a Minimum Wage Messaging training hosted by community partner the Center for Working Families. Marilyn immediately connected with the struggle for economic self sufficiency. She has been featured in print and digital media outlets sharing her story about the challenges of surviving on a minimum wage and the minimal access to jobs paying living wages for ex-offenders.

You can read more about each CIP in the bios on page 2



Lead Organizer, Yomara Velez, helps participants build a critical analysis of the issues that most impact women & people of color



9to5 Welcomes New Team players

Mari McCoy is a full time student at Georgia State's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies who recently retired from a 30 year corporate career. Her focus is nonprofit leadership, and her passions are the living wage movement and affordable housing for the working poor. A Detroit native, Mari and her family moved to the Atlanta area in 1993. Her community activities have included fundraising, building homes and, helping a grass-

roots nonprofit in southwest Atlanta with the cultivation of their strategic plan. Mari works as the Atlanta chapter's Minimum Wage Coalition intern and has been involved in research comparing wages to self-sufficiency standards, demographic studies in key legislative districts, as well as meeting with state and federal representatives to help educate them on the importance of providing families with a living wage and paid sick time. She is excited

to be a part of 9to5's work, and looks forward to fighting for better policies for working families.



"Working adults should make enough to lift their families out of poverty."

9to5 Membership is \$25/year, low-wage is \$10. Thanks to members and donors who make this work possible!

Meet the New Atlanta Team Players Cont .



New member Jerret Johnson is excited to be in the Atlanta CIP program.

Jerret Johnson is from Detroit, Michigan and came to Atlanta, Ga with her daughter Cheyenne in August 18, 2005 after graduating for Specs Howard School of Broadcasting. Jerret has been in Atlanta for four years now and worked as a catering server, janitor, and housekeeper. These were the only jobs that would hire her easily but, still Jerret found it difficult to live off her paycheck. Jerret discov-

ered 9to5 Working Women while participating in a housing program and became interested in being involved with the organization. She excited about 9to5 minimum wage campaign and issues impacting single working women. Jerret enjoys interacting with people in community sharing her views of 9to5 and inviting them to become involved in the cause.

participating in CIP Internship Program and Digital Storytelling Voices Campaign Group. She has volunteered for door to door knocking, stressing to the community the importance of getting out to vote.

Jerret is pursuing a Bachelor Degree in Business and plans to continue her work with 9to5 in the future.

Currently, Jerret is partici-



"I am both grateful that they are making sure the voices of working families

and mothers are being heard in this debate, and hopeful that their efforts will make a difference"- Jackie Hubbell

Jackie Hubbell is the new Jesuit Volunteer (JVC) in the Atlanta office. As a part of JVC, she lives with six other women who are volunteering in different organizations throughout the city of Atlanta. Each organization addresses a different social justice issue including refugee resettlement services, after school programs for low-income

families, and legal services for migrant workers. She grew up in Los Angeles and recently graduated from Boston College with a major in English and a minor in Women's Studies. In the 9to5 office, Jackie answers the Helpline calls and e-mails and helps with Chapter organizing events. Jackie spent an exciting summer last year in D.C. with the

American Association of University Women where she witnessed firsthand the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act in the House of Representatives, and she is very happy to be with 9to5 continuing to work for equal treatment in the workplace!



Marilynn addresses participants at Atlanta Mayors Roundtable w/ Organizing Director Cindia Cameron

Marilynn's Winn:

I was the only one in my family born and raised in Atlanta. I attended C.W. Hill Elementary School and graduated from David T. Howard high School. Due to my mother working for minimum wage I wasn't able to attend college. With my mother working two jobs to support me I had no supervision. The lack of support led me into a life of crime at an early age. I

went through life for a while without a purpose. I have a purpose today standing and fighting for women's' rights. The Center for Working Families, Fulton County Drug Court, and 9to5 are teaching me skills to become an advocate for all women who can't speak out for themselves. Women should have living wages and be able to live above the minimum

wage to be independent and able to take care of their families. My passion is to become an advocate and role model for female repeat offenders. I refuse to see other women living the life I have lived; I have to try to put a stop to it. I am currently working with 9to5 as a community intern standing up for the rights of all women, especially ex-offenders.

Election Connection 2010



YOUR VOTE MATTERS!
Get involved in the 9to5 Election Connection Project. As the 2010 election season approaches 9to5 will need your help to

provide voter education, registration and GOTV outreach throughout Metro Atlanta.

The following offices are up for election in Georgia in 2010: US Senate, Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, School Superintendent, Insurance Commissioner, Agriculture Commissioner,

Labor Commissioner, PSC District 2 .

Learn more about the importance of the available seats and make an impact on the races by getting involved. Contact Shyria Coleman to learn more about Election Connection volunteer activities by email: shyria@9to5.org or by ph 404.222.0037

"Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice. Justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love." -- Martin Luther King,

The 2010 Census is your community's voice in government.

How It Benefits Your Community?

When you fill out the census form you're making a statement about what resources your community needs going forward.

Accurate data reflecting changes in your community are crucial in apportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representa-

tives and deciding how over \$400 billion per year is allocated for projects like new hospitals and schools.

That's more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period for things like new roads and schools, and services like job training centers.

The census effect in action in addition, residents them-

selves have used census data to support community initiatives involving environmental legislation, quality-of-life issues and consumer advocacy.

For more information about the census visit: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/how/index.php>

How can our statewide organizing efforts connect to the larger picture ?

Why States Mattered in 2009

As legislators discussed plans for 2010, it was clear that state policy continues to matter in driving national policy and politics. Progressive States Network (PSN) Executive Director Nathan Newman outlined how frustrations over the federal filibuster just reinforce the reality that states remain the ultimate "check and balance on

federal inaction" and the ongoing source of innovation in American public policy.

US Senators supported by just 7 million voters out of a population of over 300 million Americans -- just 3% of the voting population -- have the potential power to block all substantive federal legislation -- a hurdle that allows monied special interests to delay and

water down federal legislation. While the extraordinary success of progressives in the 2008 elections gives us hope of real progress of federal legislation, notably it was gains in the states in recent years on health care, clean energy policy and workers' rights issues like the minimum wage that helped force progressive ideas back into the national debate.

For more information about the movement for progressive statewide policies visit: <http://www.progressivestates.org/node/23678>



ATL leader speaks up @ ALC

Check out the Atlanta Chapter “SoundBoard”

Your “VOICES” are the heart of our movement. The most effective way for 9to5 to communicate the critical need for the policy changes we seek is to share your working family testimonies with state and federal policy makers.

9to5 values the contributions of the leaders and we understand that the ability to be heard and understood is a powerful moving experience. Our leaders

gain a sense of empowerment while building critical awareness about the issues we champion.

The Atlanta chapter is excited to announce the launching of the SoundBoard digital story telling project. The team will be producing 1-3 min movie shorts about work/family challenges experienced by 9to5 members and other working families. The SoundBoard team is comprised of members Ebony Thomas, Jerret Johnson and staff liaison, Jackie

Hubbell.

Call 9to5 to schedule an interview appointment if you are interested in sharing your personal story. Your VOICE can help make the case for increased access to Paid Sick Days & Living Wages for working families, as well as making TANF reform and other self sufficiency issues a legislative priority.

Contact Jackie ph: 404.222.0037 or email: Jackie@9to5.org

GET INVOLVED TODAY! Tell 9to5 your story... The Atlanta Chapter SoundBoard is setting up interviews to with members interested in telling YOUR WORKPLACE STORY.

Do you have a story about a wage related issue? Are you trying to support a family on MINIMUM WAGE?

Or have you lost a job because you were forced to choose between your family and your job? Are you the only care provider for both dependant children and elder family members but your job doesn't offer PAID FAMILY LEAVE

If you answered yes to any of these questions get involved with 9to5's Campaign Committees.

Minimum Wage:
contact Yomara Velez
ph: 404.222.0001
email: yomara@9to5.org or
visit www.georgialivingwage.org

Family Leave:
contact Shyria Coleman
ph: 404.222.0037 email:
Shyria@9to5.org or visit
www.gaworkingfamilies.org

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