



WORKER CENTERS & Economic Justice

Economic justice is deeply rooted in sacred Scriptures. In the Jewish Torah, we find mandates for worker justice, such as Deuteronomy 24:14-15:

“You shall not withhold the wages of the poor and needy laborers...otherwise they might cry to the Lord against you.”

In the words and deeds of Jesus and the letters of the New Testament, we find the good news proclaimed to the poor and specific admonitions, such as:

“The wages of laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out...and have reached the ears of the Lord” (James 5:4).

The Qur’an reminds the community of Islam about its duty to promote fairness and economic justice for all people.

Struggles for economic justice are daily happenings in our Capital Region. Low wage workers in our area as well as throughout our country face many obstacles including racial and ethnic discrimination. There are many ways that they continue to be exploited, either by wage theft or other lack of labor law enforcement due to their legal status.

Worker Centers are organizations that all workers may turn to as they pursue a better life for themselves and their families. Community-based worker centers help low wage workers obtain the resources they need such as social services and healthcare. They serve as advocates in the fight for civil and human rights. Worker Centers help workers organize for better wages and benefits as well as improving their neighborhoods and educational opportunities.

For this reason, the Labor-Religion Coalition of New York State created the **Capital District Worker Center**. Its mission is to build the empowerment of low-wage workers through leadership development and educational programs in order to achieve living wages, affordable health care and public policies that benefit the working poor.



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NUTS & BOLTS of what you can do:

1. Pray for working people, especially low-wage earners and those who are exploited.
2. Remember to ask questions about how workers are treated. Speak up in support of working people who are seeking respect and a voice in their working situations.
3. Concretely today, sign this form expressing your commitment to either directly helping a low wage worker by **becoming a mentor** and guiding this person through his or her obstacles or **referring an individual** to the Capital District Worker Center for assistance.

- Contact me about becoming a mentor.
- I would like to refer a person to the CDWC. Please contact me.

My name _____

Address (optional) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

For more information, please contact the
Labor Religion Coalition, 33 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12210
518-482-5595, LRCofCD@gmail.org, www.labor-religion.org

The Labor Religion Coalition is the Capital District affiliate
of the following groups:
Labor Religion Coalition of New York State, Interfaith Worker
Justice, and Jobs with Justice



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