



## Making the Case for Paying a Living Wage



Mobilizing **community will** to eliminate poverty in Halton



## Who is making a minimum wage?

*"Paid employment,  
after all, should be a  
pathway out of  
poverty."*

— Bishop Douglas Crosby,  
the Roman Catholic Diocese  
of Hamilton  
Bishop Michael Bird, the  
Anglican Diocese of  
Niagara

**Over 10,000 residents in  
Halton are considered  
working poor (2011).**

### WHAT PEOPLE THINK

Teenager  
Works part time  
after school  
Lives with parents  
Earning extra  
spending money



### THE REALITY

Average age:  
**36 years old**  
**89% are not teens,**  
they're 20 or older  
37% are  
**40 or older**  
56% are  
**women**  
**28% have children**  
57% work  
**full time**  
On average, they earn  
**more than half** of their  
**family's total income**



## Impact of a Living Wage...



- **Increased Efficiencies and Productivity:** Increased employee motivation, retention, and reduced absenteeism
- **An Inclusive Community:** Instead of working two or three jobs to make up for low wages, with increased economic equality and access to one full-time and living wage job, employees have increased time to volunteer, spend with family and participate in community
- **Increased Regional Economic Growth:** More money circulating in the local economy; when people earn more they spend their money in communities There is also an increased tax base to draw on.
- **Decreased Poverty:** A living wage reduces dependence on social services such as food banks, energy cost-relief programs, and enables families to take better care of their health and wellbeing.

**"An engaged staff is our competitive advantage...it sets us apart in a crowded industry."**

Helmi Ansari, founder of  
Grosche International





## Contact Us



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THANK YOU!

“Giving a Voice to Poverty in Halton.”