

Our faith traditions affirm the importance of treating all workers with respect and fairness. However, millions of people throughout the US are struggling to provide for their families because of

WAGE THEFT

Wage theft is the *illegal underpayment or nonpayment* of workers' wages. Wage theft occurs when unethical employers violate federal or state laws by:

- Not paying the minimum wage
- Stealing workers' tips
- Not paying for all hours worked
- Taking illegal deductions from workers' pay
- Giving workers paychecks that bounce
- Not paying overtime for hours worked over 40 hrs/week

Wage theft occurs in every industry, but it is particularly widespread in **agriculture, restaurants, retail, car washes, landscaping, construction, and home care/child care.** Thousands of Virginia workers are being cheated out of their wages, and Virginia's laws to protect workers against wage theft are **inadequate.**

"You shall not oppress a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brothers or one of the sojourners who are in your land within your towns."

DEUTERONOMY 24:14



VICPP SEEKS TO

- Advocate for legislation that supports workers
- Strengthen the economy
- Level the playing field for employers that pay workers fairly
- Ensure that workers are paid all their legally-owed wages
- Ensure that employers are paying their share of workers' compensation insurance and payroll & unemployment taxes

TAKE ACTION TO STOP WAGE THEFT

- Pray for all workers and employers
- Show the VICPP Wage Theft PowerPoint to your congregation or community group
- Meet with your legislator this fall to advocate legislation that supports working people. VICPP will help you schedule meetings and provide background resources
- Support employers who pay workers fairly by encouraging local businesses to join Living Wage Certification Programs
- For more information and a copy of the VICPP Wage Theft PowerPoint visit: tinyurl.com/RichmondLivingWage or email Amanda@virginiainterfaithcenter.org

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