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A LIVING WAGE FOR CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG?

DELORES HURT [deloreshurt@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 12:08 PM**To:** editor@qcitymetro.com; ccprice3@aol.com; Herb.White@thecharlottepost.com; sjohnston@tueforumcdt.org; Steve Johnston; publisher@countynews4you.com; bthompson@V1019.com; news@wcnc.com; charlottetalks@wfae.org; charlottetoday@wcnc.com**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2014

LIVING WAGE?

ARE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG RESIDENTS READY FOR A

The League of Women Voters of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, in conjunction with the North Carolina Justice Center, is hosting a community discussion on a living wage for Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Wednesday, June 18, 2014, 6:30 p.m. at the Midwood International House Auditorium, 1817 Central Avenue in Charlotte.

The Justice Center's **Alexandra Sirota** will present its 2014 Living Income Standard, which provides measures of what families around the state need to achieve an adequate standard of living.

In addition, **Fannie Flono**, Associate Editor of the Charlotte Observer, will moderate a panel of service providers, workers and community leaders who are advocating for a living wage ordinance in the Charlotte area.

A living wage can be defined as a measure of what a family needs to meet the local costs of a basic budget that includes child care, housing, transportation, food and health insurance, as well as taxes and other essential items.

Currently, the following municipalities/counties in North Carolina have enacted some form of living wage for their residents: City of Durham, Durham County, City of Asheville, Buncombe and Orange counties. Sirota states that while their living wages represent an improvement over the minimum wage, they fall short of reflecting the full cost of making ends meet for a family.

Other host groups for the discussion are Crisis Assistance Ministry, Center for Community Change and UE-150.

For further information, you may contact Delores Hurt at deloreshurt@yahoo.com (704-778-3887), Nancy Wiggins at nancywiggins@gmail.com or Alexandra Sirota at alexandra@ncjustice.org.