



ORDINARY PEOPLE
EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

Ways to Address the Wealth Gap

Dive deeper into what you can do to take
action to help close the wealth gap.

- ☐ **Know the federal minimum wage.** The federal minimum wage is currently \$7.25 per hour. This means that if you work forty hours a week for an entire year, you are making \$15,080 before taxes. Or, \$280 a week before taxes. This is not enough to live on in the United States without additional supports.
- ☐ **Know the minimum wage in your state.** The National Council of State Legislatures and other organizations provide charts that show the minimum wage in your state. Look one up (e.g., ncsl.org/labor-and-employment/state-minimum-wages) and know it. These wages are rarely living wages—meaning people work but cannot make ends meet. Having this information can equip you in the push for changes to wage laws and provide context when interacting with people day to day.
- ☐ **Take action to hold corporations accountable.** As the wealth gap widens, it is not just the government but also mega-corporations that need to be held accountable for the working conditions they create. Throughout history, ordinary people have been able to use their power to change working conditions, and we must do so now (more on the tools to do this in Action 6).

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STEPS LIKE THIS**

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