

CONFERENCE CALL TO ACTION

Our country is in the throes of an economic crisis, the most severe since the Great Depression. Unemployment is at the disaster level. But even in better times, chronic unemployment, low wages, myriad unmet needs and unprecedented environmental degradation were endemic. We cannot go back to those “good old days.” The conference will develop goals and strategies to create living-wage jobs for all and meet human needs in an environmentally sustainable economy.

Current Job Crisis Over 30 million workers are already fully or partially jobless. Unemployment may exceed 10% through 2011. This is the most rapid job loss since the Great Depression. Many long-term unemployed will lose benefits, savings and homes.

Weak Stimulus By the Obama administration’s own estimate, the economic stimulus will create only a fraction of the millions of jobs lost since the recession began. Nor will the stimulus stem the continuing job hemorrhage.

“Good Old Days” Even in “good” times: more than 5 million women and men were officially jobless; hidden unemployment afflicted many millions more; poverty wages were rampant, inequality reigned, our infrastructure crumbled; and human services fell far short of needs. We *must* not go back to those “Good Old Days.” Instead, we should be guided by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who in 1933 said, “*We cannot be content, no matter how high the general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people ... is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed, and insecure.*”

Real Reform Now is the time to organize and mobilize to create a just economy-- one that assures living-wage jobs for all, sustains the environment and repairs our social and physical infrastructure.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration is \$60 for general admission (or \$50 Early Bird rate before October 30) and \$35 for students. The fee includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch for both days.

NOTE: The Friday dinner is NOT included in the registration fee.

To register for the conference, and to endorse the Conference Call to Action, please visit:

www.JobsConference.org

To register by mail, please make a check payable to “Council for International and Public Affairs” and fill out this form:

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

WEBSITE: _____

Mail to:

National Jobs for All Coalition
c/o Council for International & Public Affairs
777 United Nations Plaza, Suite 3C
New York, NY 10017 • Phone: 212-972-9879

Web: www.JobsConference.org www.NJFAC.org

Email: JobsConference@njfac.org

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED during the two-day conference include:

- The current crisis in unemployment and underemployment
- Faith and community perspectives on living-wage jobs and decent work
- Underinvestment in physical infrastructure and public services
- Creating jobs that meet human needs and improve infrastructure
- Trade union initiatives to create jobs, raise wages, defend worker rights and build a strong economy
- Green jobs and environmental sustainability
- Developing a legislative program for job creation and economic renewal
- Building a broad-based social movement to create living-wage jobs for everyone who wants to work and achieve full employment

ENDORERS OF THE CONFERENCE CALL TO ACTION: (partial list): Adelphi University School of Social Work; Americans for Democratic Action; Bill Fletcher, Jr.; Center for Constitutional Rights; Chicago & Midwest Regional Joint Board of Worker’s United; Chicago Political Economy Group; Committee for New Priorities/ Chicago Jobs With Justice; Cornell ILR Extension Programs; Coalition on Human Needs; Coalition for Economic and Social Justice, San Francisco & Belleville, IL; CWA Local 1180; DC 37 AFSCME; Green for All; Greater New York Labor-Religion Coalition; Hunter College School of Social Work; Healing of the Nations Foundation; Interfaith Center of New York City; Miami Valley Full Employment Council; National Council of Churches USA; National Jobs for All Coalition; New York Faith and Justice; New York Theological Seminary; Ohio Empowerment Coalition; Poor People’s Economic Human Rights Campaign; Presbyterian Public Policy Advocacy Network, Synod of the Northeast; Presbytery of New York City; Progressive Christians Uniting; Professional Staff Congress-CUNY; Rekindling Reform; Rutgers University School of Social Work; Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare Social Justice Center; Union of Radical Political Economists (URPE); Local 2110 UAW; General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church; University of Connecticut School of Social Work; WESPAC; The Working Families Party; Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University

ENDORSE THE CALL >> www.JobsConference.org



New York City • Friday & Saturday
November 13-14, 2009

Conference Website
www.JobsConference.org

Telephone
212-972-9879 (National Jobs for All Coalition)

Addresses

Friday Interchurch Center 475 Riverside Drive NYC	Saturday DC37 125 Barclay Street NYC
---	--

**National Conference to Create Living Wage Jobs,
Meet Human Needs, and Sustain the Environment
(Interim draft as of 10/29/09)**

Friday, November 13

**LOCATION: Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive
(at W. 120th Street), New York, NY**

8:30 AM Registration, Coffee / Continental Breakfast

9:00 Welcome – The Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes
Senior Pastor Emeritus, Riverside Church of New
York, President, Healing of the Nations Foundation

**9:15 Vision for Creating Living Wage Jobs,
Meeting Human Needs and Achieving
Sustainability**

Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg, Professor of
Social Policy and Chair, Ph.D. Program in
Social Work, Adelphi University
Robert Pollin, Professor of Economics,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

**10:00 Job Creation Proposals, past and
present (Panel)**

Helen Lachs Ginsburg, Professor Emeritus of
Economics, Brooklyn College, City University
of New York
Bill Barclay, Chicago Political Economy Group
Charles Bell, Vice-President, National Jobs
for All Coalition

11:15 Small Group Break-out Sessions

12:15 Lunch Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Gary Dorrien
Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics,
Union Theological Seminary, New York, NY,
introduced by Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes
**Topic: The ethical imperative to create
living wage jobs and meet human needs**

**1:30 Religious & Faith Perspectives on
Decent Work**

Michael Feinberg, Executive Director,
Greater New York Labor-Religion Coalition
Paul H. Sherry, Former Coordinator, Let
Justice Roll minimum wage Campaign,
former President, United Church of Christ
David Wildman, Executive Secretary, Human
Rights & Racial Justice, General Board of
Global Ministries, United Methodist Church
Christine Firer Hinze, Professor, Christian
Ethics, Fordham University
Dedrick Muhammad Senior Organizer and
Research Associate of the Institute for Policy
Studies.

2:45 BREAK

3:00 Glen Ford, Black Agenda Report
**Creating Jobs: An African-American
Perspective**

**3:30 Job Creation Strategies to Meet Human
Needs and Sustain the Environment**

Sheila Collins, Professor of Political Science,
William Paterson University (moderator).
Debbie Weinstein, Executive Director,
Coalition on Human Needs
Billy Wimsatt, Senior Strategist, Green For All
Emmaia Gelman, Policy Director, Center for
Working Families
Barbara Bowen, President, Professional Staff
Congress, City University of New York, AFL-CIO
Infrastructure / Transportation Speaker

5:00 Ed Ott, Former Ex. Dir. Central Labor Council
(NYC), Co-Founder, Apollo Alliance, and Five
Borough Institute

5:30 PM Adjourn

5:30 PM Reception & Networking

7:00 – 10 Dinner at Local Restaurant

Saturday, November 14

**LOCATION: District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, 125
Barclay Street, New York, NY**

8:30 AM Coffee & Continental Breakfast

9:00 Welcome - Lillian Roberts, Executive
Director, District Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-
CIO

9:15 Trade Unions & Job Creation

Mel Rothenberg, Chicago Political Economy
Group (moderator).
Lillian Roberts, Executive Director, District
Council 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO
Peter Knowlton, Northeast Region President
of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine
Workers of America (UE)
James Thindwa, labor and community
activist, and former Executive Director,
Chicago Jobs With Justice
Additional Labor Speaker TBA*

10:45 BREAK

**11:00 Community Organizing to Create Jobs
and Meet Human Needs**

Logan Martinez, organizer, Miami Valley Full
Employment Council/Organize Ohio
(moderator)
Barbara Arms, Treasurer and Community
Organizer, Coalition for Economic and Social
Justice, Belleville, IL and San Francisco
Elce Redmond, South Austin Community
Coalition, Committee for New Priorities and
Executive committee, Chicago Jobs With
Justice
Larry Bresler, Executive Director, Poor
People’s Economic Human Rights Campaign
Cassandra Barham, Ohio Empowerment
Coalition/Cincinnati Contact Center

**12:30 LUNCH - Toward Decent Work and Living
Wages for All**

Holly Sklar, Senior Policy Advisor, Let Justice
Roll Living Wage Campaign, author of A Just
Minimum Wage: Good for Workers, Business
and Our Future ,
Bill Quigley, Legal Director, Center for
Constitutional Rights

2:15 Legislative Strategy Panel

Charles Bell, National Jobs for All Coalition
(moderator)
Phil Harvey, Professor of Law and Economics,
Rutgers School of Law
Joseph Persky, Professor of Economics,
University of Illinois at Chicago
NY State Sen. Bill Perkins
U.S. Rep. Jerry Nadler (invited)

3:45 BREAK

**4:00 Closing Session – Building a Mass
Movement for Job Creation**

Ricardo Valadez, National Jobs with Justice

Other speakers*

**Wrap-up: Conference Organizing
Committee Representative**

5:00 PM Reflection and Adjourn

* TBA = to be announced