

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Alternatives Federal Credit Union to update Living Wage — Ithaca, NY.

Alternatives Federal Credit Union will release the results of its biennial Living Wage Study on Friday, August 18, 2017. A news conference will be held from 10:00am - 12:00pm at The Space at GreenStar, 700 W. Buffalo St., Ithaca, NY.

Karl Graham, Director of Community Relations and Development at Alternatives, will announce the updated figures that represent a Living Wage for the Tompkins County area. Karl will be joined by a panel of speakers including:

- Eric Levine, Acting CEO, General Counsel Alternatives FCU
- Megan Ward, A Living Wage employee
- Pete Meyers, Tompkins County Workers Center
- Deb Dietrich, ED of OAR (a small not for profit that works with formerly incarcerated people) a Certified Living Wage Employer

Alternatives released the first Living Wage Study in 1994 and has updated the study biennially. The study was originally done for internal use by Alternatives, but its release to the public was encouraged by Alternatives' Board of Directors. It has stimulated important discussion about the meaning of earning a Living Wage and provided a benchmark for others in the county to use. The Tompkins County Workers Center has a process for businesses to become certified Living Wage employers and encourages the community to support those organizations and businesses. Their website tcworkerscenter.org lists 106 certified Living Wage employers (up from 86 since 2013).

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