

# ***AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL***

## **VALUE**

We need an economy that works for everyone, where the roadmap to opportunity is clear and available to all. The middle class is the engine of our economy and most people's best shot at real opportunity. But it doesn't happen by accident. A strong and growing middle class is the result of decisions we make together to build an economy that is fair and equitable

## **PROBLEM**

Over the past 30 years the wages of the middle class have dropped in real \$\$ while the wealth and salaries of the very wealthy have increased 300 fold. This has created the greatest gap in income that this nation has ever seen. While some say the wealthy create jobs for everyone else, that hasn't happened. Many of the good paying jobs have been shipped over-seas and jobs created here don't pay enough for people to be able to give their families the basics such as food, shelter, and health care. Working families are struggling and our political system is too influenced by money over people.

## **SOLUTION**

Good government can play a positive role in the solution to this problem. We must elect leaders who understand the struggle the middle class is having. Laws that only favor the wealthy will further break down our middle class. Good public education, a fair minimum wage, taxes that require the wealthy to pay their fair share, help for small businesses, and bringing manufacturing jobs home are just some of the things we ask them to do! Some of this has been done through President Obama's efforts, but much more could be done if our elected officials would cooperate.

## **ACTION**

Insist that your state and local representatives pass laws that help struggling working and middle class families reach their goals. Things like free technical and two year colleges and an increase in the federal and state minimum wage would help. Expanding Medicaid would help working families. Encouraging workers to bargain for good wages and benefits is essential. A fair state and federal tax system could increase money available to rebuild our infrastructure which would in turn create more working class jobs.