



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Communications Office

[Dara Demi](#), Communications Director, 919-856-7547

[Communications After Hours](#), 919-857-WAKE

wakegov.com/news

Date: April 4, 2017

Wake Task Force Highlights Wage Gap on National Equal Pay Day

Today is national Equal Pay Day, a date that symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The Wake County Task Force on Employment and Wage Issues for Women is using this day to highlight the wage gap that exists locally between men and women.

Nationally, women earn about 79 cents for every dollar a man makes. In Wake County, however, the gap is even wider. Working women make 69 cents to every dollar their male counterparts earn.

“Based on these figures, it will take women in Wake County until June 7, 2017, to catch up to the pay men earned in 2016,” said Jackie Terry Hughes, task force member and law firm owner. “This broad wage gap is impacting the success of women and their families in our community, and that’s why the task force is working hard to raise awareness about it and reduce income disparities.”

The task force has worked for about nine months to study the causes of the wage gap and consider solutions to the problem. Part of this work includes a survey issued to a number of businesses, nonprofit groups and colleges in Wake County. The task force will analyze the survey data when it is received in mid-April.

In June, the task force will present its report and recommendations on how to drive positive change for local working women to the Wake County Board of Commissioners.

The success or failure of women in the workforce has direct impacts on the social and economic vitality of our community. To learn more about issues facing women in the county, read the [State of Employment for Women in Wake County](#) report.

###

www.wakegov.com | FOLLOW US @wakegov

