

# A CITY THAT WORKS

## HOW HOUSTON CAN CREATE OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

### AN ECONOMY OUT OF BALANCE

Houston is one of the most unequal cities in the country.

#### HOUSEHOLD INCOME



The richest 7% of households earn **20 TIMES MORE** than the bottom 7% of households.

#### POVERTY LINE



**1 IN 5**  
**HOUSTON**  
**HOUSEHOLDS**  
live below the  
poverty line



**1 IN 4**  
**AFRICAN-AMERICAN**  
and **LATINO**  
**HOUSEHOLDS**  
live in poverty



**1 IN 3**  
**WOMEN-HEADED**  
**HOUSEHOLDS**  
live in poverty

#### WAGES

**HALF**  
**OF**  
**HOUSTONIANS**

Often those who can find work struggle to pay bills on **LOW WAGES**.

**EARN**  
**LESS THAN**  
**\$15**  
**AN HOUR**

#### YOUR TAX DOLLARS SUBSIDIZE POVERTY JOBS

**OVER A 4-YR PERIOD**  
**PRIVATE COMPANIES**  
**— RECEIVED —**

Most tax breaks are awarded to wealthy companies like **WALMART, LANDRY'S & HALLIBURTON**

**\$800M**  
**TAX BREAKS**  
**TAX DOLLARS**



**O** with no commitment to **JOB STANDARDS\***  
\*2010 - 2014 City of Houston Economic Development Agreements

#### WHO BENEFITS MOST FROM YOUR TAX DOLLARS

**\$75M**  
OF OUR TAX DOLLARS subsidized construction of high-end downtown housing

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS ONLY THE TOP 1%** pushing many Houstonians out of their neighborhoods

#### CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL HOUSTONIANS

**THERE IS A SOLUTION.** When elected officials review development projects asking for multi-million-dollar tax breaks, we can ask how Houstonians will benefit.

To receive a tax break or subsidy, private developers must commit to:

- Pay family-sustaining wages and benefits**
- Hire from neighborhoods with high poverty and unemployment levels**
- Open jobs and training programs to people who need a second chance**
- Include affordable housing in any housing development**

Together, we can make sure our tax money makes **Houston a stronger city instead of funding poverty jobs.**

— SIGN THE PETITION —  
[www.Houston4all.org](http://www.Houston4all.org)

**TOP**  
Texas Organizing Project

