

Summer at WAGES

Table of Contents

[WAGES News & Recent Activity](#)
[Interns for Economic Security!](#)
[A New View in San Francisco](#)
[Hello, Neighbor!](#)
[Co-ops as Part of Local, Living Economies](#)

Quick Links

[WAGES Website](#)
[Co-op Network](#)
[Find us on Facebook](#)
[Donate Now](#)



WAGES' Peer Leader Group with Ivette Melendez, WAGES Co-op Development Trainer, at their day-long training in June.

WAGES News & Recent Activity

- WAGES receives praise from CFED for "paving the way for healthy futures" & successful job creation. Read the blog post [here](#).
- [View](#) pictures & coverage of socias from WAGES' affiliate Natural Home Cleaning and general manager, Deb Goldberg, presenting at a co-op event sponsored by Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin and NOBAWC.
- View photos [here](#) or on our [Facebook page](#) of a recent Literary Salon Fundraiser benefitting WAGES' work. It was an afternoon of celebration and creativity with a trio of emerging Bay Area authors/activists who read from their works.

A New View in San Francisco

Home Green Home SF Greet New Members, New Digs

HGH SF is excited to welcome three new members to the Home Green Home SF co-op! The new members recently took part in an educational training that lasted several days and were joined by an additional five women who participated as well. We are happy to report that total membership is at eight socias (worker-owners), and recruitment for the next cohort will begin in September.



This summer has also brought a welcome change for HGH SF as the co-op settles into their new office space at Plaza Adelante. Located in San Francisco's multicultural Mission neighborhood, Plaza Adelante houses several nonprofits and other small businesses. The new location has been a wonderful and supportive environment for HGH SF to begin a season of growth and prosperity. And in order to meet the unique needs of SF residents, Home Green Home will soon be offering specially targeted offers to meet the needs of multi-family residential properties and mixed-use buildings throughout the City.

As we begin the transition from carefree summer days into the pre-Back To School season, HGH SF looks forward to a busy schedule!

Hello, Neighbor!

Natural Home Cleaning Contra Costa at Your Service in Concord and Beyond

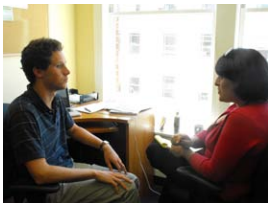
WAGES is excited to announce that our newest cooperative, Natural Home Cleaning Contra Costa, is off the ground and running! Based in Concord, the new co-op serves the greater Contra Costa County.



Interns for Economic Security!

WAGES would like to welcome and celebrate our Summer 2011 class of interns! They are an enthusiastic group of students representing a wide variety of interests and backgrounds, and we commend their passion for public service and social justice. Read below for a little more about the interns and their summer projects.

Graduate intern Miriam Joffe-Block is researching the feasibility of possible co-op incubation in Marin County, modeling financial projections for our upcoming San Jose co-op incubation, and working on the development of shared management services with Co-op Network Manager, Cristina Hernandez. She is an MBA student at Georgetown University and has grassroots experience organizing and representing hotel workers. Miriam is also an avid salsa dancer.



Intern Peter Ferrari is spending his summer researching asset building strategies for Bay Area co-ops and their members to increase member asset accumulation. In his third year at the University of San Diego, Peter is majoring in International Relations, Business Administration and Theology. He also enjoys playing water polo.

Intern Claire Calderon is conducting annual surveys of the co-op members this summer and collecting data to analyze the impact of the co-op programs in the women's lives. Claire is completing her studies in Gender/Women's and Latin American studies at Scripps College this fall. Claire is working closely with Ashley Zhang, who is also evaluating program impact, collecting data, and assembling secondary data for similar scenarios outside the program. Ashley is an undergrad at NYU studying ancient religions and entrepreneurship. Ashley plans to use her experience at WAGES to develop an international microfinance organization in the future.

Communications intern Neha Jaganathan is a recent graduate of the University of California Los Angeles, where she studied Global Studies and Public Affairs. During her time at WAGES, Neha will be spearheading various communications



This project represents an exciting new innovation in WAGES' approach to developing cooperatives; by co-locating operations staff at Natural Home Cleaning Professionals (the mature co-op that WAGES developed in Oakland), the young business is now enjoying stronger support in their early years than any past WAGES cooperative. Current members, all of whom founded the co-op, report that they are very happy and excited at the new partnership with WAGES. NHC Contra Costa expects to double the co-op's membership by the end of the year, and WAGES lead project staff (Deb Goldberg and Michelle Matos, pictured above) are currently working to build our partnerships in Contra Costa in preparation for new member recruitment in the fall!

Consumers in the Moraga, Orinda, and Lafayette areas can expect exciting new offers in late August and early fall.

Co-ops as Part of Local, Living Economies

WAGES' Co-op Network Manager, Cristina Hernandez, reflects on the 2011 BALLE Conference

The theme for this year's Business Alliance for Local Living Economies Business Conference in Bellingham, Washington, delivered a simple yet powerful message: *Place Matters*. The conference theme underscored BALLE's mission to further strengthen networks of business owners who are dedicated to building strong local, living economies and are exploring cooperative ownership as a viable and profitable business model to promote to its networks.

WAGES' own Cristina Hernandez spoke at this year's conference alongside Michael Peck, of the MAPA Group and Mondragon, and Andrew McLeod of the National Cooperative Business Association. As part of the series on innovative business models and ownership structures, Hernandez discussed how co-ops are a business model with maximum local impact. "We respond to the local needs of the community," said Hernandez, sharing stories of women worker-owners becoming economically independent through co-op membership and elevating their families and communities.



Hernandez explained how throughout her experience sharing the WAGES model with the interfaith community, the cooperative community, or the business community, "In a fascinating way, the

projects and assisting with donor relations.
Her multilingual talents include Russian.

Please visit our website at
wagescooperatives.org
to donate
or click the button below

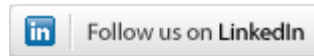


message remains." "[It's about] building [a] beloved community," she said, "where businesses and job creation respect a triple bottom line and bring equality and opportunity for all." It is the concept of thinking and acting locally for the benefit of people, place, and planet.

BALLE is the largest grass-roots business network in the country. For more information, visit their website at livingeconomies.org.

Be a part of the action!

See us on



Would you like to forward this email to a friend? [Click here](#).

Share This Email: A row of small social media sharing icons: Facebook, Twitter, Print, Email, LinkedIn, and a generic share icon.

[Remove my name from all future email correspondence](#)

Address postal inquiries to:

Womens Action to Gain Economic Security - WAGES
1904 Franklin Street Suite 801
Oakland, CA 94612

Powered By

