WAGES

A better living. A better life.

www.wagescooperatives.org

Dignity, Opportunity... and Success!

WAGES has started off the New Year with an enlivened energy and renewed commitment to our mission of building healthy, dignified jobs for low-income women, and we are excited to share some recent news and highlights with you.

Like many of you, we at WAGES are enjoying the longer (and sunnier) days and are anticipating a bountiful 2011 filled with brighter, better futures for even more women worker-owners. We are excited to begin the work to realize WAGES' vision for expansion and growth over the next three years by launching three more Bay Area cooperatives, as well as our first enterprise in a new region. As we enter this new period of growth, we invite you to join us in celebrating the accomplishments of the women who have found security and dignity through our green cleaning cooperative model.

Take a look and learn more about the incredible women worker-owners in our co-op network and their achievements.

From all of us at WAGES, thank you for supporting dignity, opportunity, and success for all!

WAGES and co-ops featured on KDTV Univision News 14 Special Series

Spanish-language KDTV Univision News 14 featured WAGES, Natural Home Cleaning, and Home Green Home in a two-part story that explored WAGES' model of worker-owner, green housecleaning cooperatives and the resulting improved economic security for the women involved, their families, and their communities.

Veronica, one of the two long-standing co-op members at Oakland's Natural Home Cleaning who were interviewed for the series, reminded viewers, "Don't be afraid. [She] who seeks opportunity, finds opportunity."

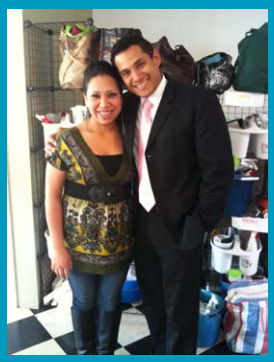
Joined by her long-time cleaning partner, Luz, they – along with members from San Francisco's Home Green Home co-op – spoke with Univision reporter Flavio Lacayo about the radical changes in their lives since becoming worker-owners in a cooperative.

The two-part story is currently available in Spanish on Univision 14.com: see both segments here and here.

In this issue

Univision News 14 visits WAGES, Co-ops

Small Business Success with NHC



Home Green Home co-founder, Alicia, with Univision News 14 reporter Flavio Lacayo during his visit to the co-op.

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Have something to say?

Follow WAGES on Facebook to learn from the experts and share your own tips for green cleaning and healthy living!

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^ Back to top

Local Spotlight on East Bay's Natural Home Cleaning

Natural Home Cleaning General Manager, Deb Goldberg, was joined by NHC co-op members, Norma and Anahi, at a recent press ceremony for Opportunity Fund, the Bay Area's leading nonprofit small business lender.

As Opportunity Fund and Chase announced the launch of "Green4Green," a new loan fund aimed at further developing the Bay Area's green economy, Natural Home Cleaning was featured as an example of the best possible results for microlending and economic development efforts.

Norma, a soon-to-be mom, shared what it meant for her to be part of a 'green' business where her health, and the health of her baby, is protected. Prior to joining Natural Home Cleaning, she dealt with irritating harsh chemicals on a daily basis and as a result grew seriously ill. At NHC, Norma said she feels secure knowing that while she is pregnant she does not have to choose between her health and her work. "I can feel good about using non-toxic, environmentally safe products that take care of my client, and their health, and the planet, too."

You can see photographs of Deb, Norma, and Anahi speaking at the special check presentation ceremony here.

^ Back to top

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