



Our Priorities

Raise Up Massachusetts is a grassroots coalition of community organizations, religious groups, and labor unions committed to building an economy that works for all of us. An economy that invests in families, gives everyone the opportunity to succeed, and creates broadly shared prosperity.

We are united to ensure Massachusetts continues to be a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Whether motivated by our democratic values or our religious faith or both, we recognize that our fates are connected, we are one community, and we all do better when we all do better. We reject efforts to divide our communities and scapegoat the most vulnerable among us.

We work to pass laws, through the Legislature or at the ballot box, that support working families with jobs that pay a living wage and policies that allow them to balance work and family. To support important investments in our people and communities, we believe everyone should be asked to pay their fair share.

Our Story

Throughout 2013 and 2014, more than 150 organizations and hundreds of grassroots volunteers formed Raise Up Massachusetts and collected more than 350,000 signatures to put minimum wage and earned sick time on the ballot.

In June 2014, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed legislation raising the minimum wage from \$8 to \$11 over three years, avoiding the need for a ballot question. Raise Up Massachusetts then led the campaign to ensure access to earned sick time for all workers in the Commonwealth by passing Question 4 in November 2014.

In 2015 and 2016, Raise Up Massachusetts passed a paid family and medical leave bill in the state Senate, fought to win a \$15 wage for working people as part of the national Fight for \$15 movement, and collected more than 157,000 signatures and won the first of two votes by the full state Legislature needed to advance our Fair Share Amendment towards the 2018 ballot.

Our Agenda

This year, Raise Up Massachusetts is focusing on winning three issues of critical importance to working families in Massachusetts:

Paid Family and Medical Leave will ensure that Massachusetts workers are not forced to choose between work and their own health needs or the well-being of their children and other family members.

A \$15 Minimum Wage will make sure that anyone who works at a job full-time earns a wage they can live on, so they can afford groceries, housing, heating and other basic needs and support their families.

The Fair Share Amendment will invest in quality public schools, affordable higher education, a reliable transportation system, and high-quality early childhood education by creating an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars.

To get involved in our grassroots movement, go to www.raiseupma.org