

I want to  
 **live**  
not just  
**exist**

## **UNISON – campaigning for a Living Wage in social care**

- 1.8 million of you work in residential and nursing homes and as home carers and personal assistants to society's most vulnerable people.
- The vast majority of you are paid below the Living Wage.
- 80% of you are women.

### **Who cares for the care workers?**

UNISON is committed to improving your pay and conditions and you deserve to be paid at least the Living Wage.

## What is the Living Wage?

It is an hourly rate set independently every year. It is calculated according to the cost of living and gives the minimum pay rate required for a worker to afford the essentials of life.

In London the 2012/2013 Greater London Authority rate is £8.80 per hour. Outside of London it is £7.65.

It is different to the national minimum wage of £6.31 an hour, which is the legal minimum an employer must pay.

We believe that paying a Living Wage is good for you, your family, for businesses and society. You shouldn't have to worry about paying the bills and buying the kids' school essentials. It shouldn't be a choice between heating and eating.

## You can make a difference

Since the launch of the Living Wage campaign in the UK, more than 45,000 employees have won improved working conditions and it has put more than £210 million into the pockets of people like you.\*

\* *Living Wage Foundation figures*

## Join the campaign for a Living Wage

- Talk to colleagues, listen to their issues and discuss the Living Wage.
- Ask colleagues to join UNISON and the Living Wage campaign.
- Talk to your local UNISON branch about the Living Wage campaign.
- If the branch is campaigning for the Living Wage, organise colleagues to join the campaign.
- Talk to people in your community – could they also benefit from joining UNISON and the campaign?
- If your local UNISON branch isn't yet campaigning, encourage them to talk to regional staff about how to start a Living Wage campaign. Everything they need to get started is online at: [alivingwage.co.uk](http://alivingwage.co.uk)
- Find out more from the Living Wage Foundation: [livingwage.org.uk](http://livingwage.org.uk)
- Contact UNISON at [livingwage4careworkers@unison.co.uk](mailto:livingwage4careworkers@unison.co.uk)

## Three simple ways to join UNISON today:



Join online at  
[joinunison.org](http://joinunison.org)



Call us on  
**0800 171 2193**



Ask your UNISON rep  
for an application form