

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MEDIA ADVISORY

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On Equal Pay Day,
WOMEN CALL FOR JOBS WITH BETTER PAY, SICK DAYS AND PAID LEAVE

PENNSYLVANIA – As the country recognizes Equal Pay Day on Tuesday, April 8, women across the country are calling for full economic security for themselves and their families. In addition to the need for equal - and better - pay, women are calling for other [common-sense policies](#) that help protect jobs and wages. Specifically, women are calling out in numbers nationwide for access to paid sick days and paid family leave.

Marianne Bellesorte, Vice President of Policy, Strategy, and Communications at PathWays PA, says:

"Our economy will not thrive when millions of hard working women are constantly forced to struggle to make a decent wage to support our families.

"Getting paid a family-sustaining wage is critical, but for a modern economy to work, women also need other basic, common sense workplace policies that make sure they don't lose their jobs when caring for themselves and their families.

"Without access to paid sick days, we have to choose between our health and our families' well-being. Working moms are getting fired for taking the day off when their kids have the flu.

"And without affordable family leave, we're forced to choose between the jobs we need and the family that needs us.

"These are not choices. These are decisions forced on working moms by workplace policies that just don't take into account current economic realities.

"To build a stronger economy, we need better jobs for working families."

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PathWays PA was founded in 1978 as the Women's Association for Women's Alternatives. It served as one of Pennsylvania's first residential programs to keep low-income, vulnerable women together with their children and has grown to become one of the Greater Philadelphia Region's foremost providers of residential and community-based services for women, children and families. Each year over 6,000 women, children and families benefit from our full complement of social services; job training and employment assistance; as well as outreach and residential programs as they move along the path to self-sufficiency.