WACDTF Goals and Guidelines

Updated May 20, 2011

GOALS

1. To ensure that women have access to all reproductive health care services that they desire.
2. To convey the message that women have the right to control their own bodies and lives.
3. To encourage personal empowerment through action.
4. To keep the clinics open and functioning at the request of the providers.
5. To maintain a commitment to nonviolence at all times; see the WACDTF nonviolence policy.

GUIDELINES

1. **WACDTF NONVIOLENCE POLICY**
   The Washington Area Clinic Defense Task Force (WACDTF) is committed to nonviolent direct action. While engaged in clinic defense or escorting, WACDTF acts at the invitation of the clinics and seeks to keep the entire location as calm as possible. Therefore, WACDTF volunteers agree not to act in a confrontational manner or to engage in physical or verbal attacks against anyone present. We ask people to abide by this Nonviolence Policy at all times. Any person who, in the opinion of the WACDTF site coordinator acts inappropriately will be asked to remove his or her WACDTF identifier and leave the clinic property.

2. In keeping with our Nonviolence Policy, we will seek to secure the positions required to keep clinic access open, hold our ground, and not be bullied out of position.

GUIDELINES, cont.

3. We will not engage anti-choice activists ("antis") in debate. We are not counterprotesters.

4. We will always attempt to utilize designated spokespersons when talking to the media.

5. Only designated persons should talk with police or other such officials on site. We will maintain respect in all interactions with police. This does not preclude negotiation when appropriate.

6. If asked by law enforcement to move from private property when we have permission of the clinic (or other owner) to remain present, we will ask if not moving will result in our arrest. If told yes, volunteers should be notified and given the opportunity to move and avoid arrest. With the concurrence of site leadership, volunteers willing to risk arrest to defend the clinic despite the police order may do so.

7. We will work in ways that put the goals of clinic defense above personal differences and respect the diversity of participants.

8. The safety of patients, providers, volunteers / escorts, and everyone else present is paramount and will guide our actions. Volunteers are never expected to tolerate risks they find objectionable. All are encouraged to take reasonable actions to protect their own safety and that of others, and to support each other in doing so.

By completing the below I agree to follow WACDTF's Goals and Guidelines *(Please print clearly!)*

Name	*Address*	*City / State / Zip*
Email:		*Do you speak Spanish?* No Yes, at least basic
Phone (please enter one or more) *Home:* *Cel:* *Other*:		*Check box only if you do NOT want to receive WACDTF email news notices (approx. one msg per month)* ☐
Clinic Preference:		*I have a car:* Yes No

WACDTF does not share member information with any other organization or person.