



The Spokane Progress Plan Vision and Goals

If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time.

But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.

— **Lilla Watson**, Aboriginal elder, activist and educator from Queensland, Australia

We envision a world of mutual prosperity that is free from all forms of oppression. We believe this can only be obtained when people of all races and cultures or ancestries join together in shared purpose.

We believe that people should not live in or die from poverty, especially in the richest nation ever to exist.

We reject and commit to dismantle all forms of systemic oppression, such as racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and the imbalance of power that perpetuates oppression. We recognize that the wealthy and powerful few perpetuate and energize oppressive systems in order to divide us and turn working people against each other, resulting in extreme economic inequality.

We believe that we must unite for tomorrow, today. We can no longer afford to struggle in isolation. Through our collective strength, due to our ability to work together, and the leadership of those directly impacted, our community will become all that it can be.

We believe that impacted communities' experiences and leadership must be central in transparent policy design and decision-making.

Global, national and state issues of: mass incarceration; attacks on immigrants, refugees, and people of Islamic and Jewish faiths; continued oppression of indigenous people; health inequities; poverty; homelessness; lack of equitable, stable, quality, safe, and accessible housing; opioid addiction; and ecological devastation also impact the Inland Northwest. Racial inequities are built into the Spokane region across systems including housing, criminal justice, health, education, and economic security. Poverty and economic inequality are rooted in a society built on structural white supremacy that benefits white people regardless of economic status over people of color. Using an intersectional racial equity analysis in our organizations and in our community to intentionally address disparities for people of color, we will improve success for everyone.

We are working together to transform our region to create a more equitable, peaceful, healthy, economically and environmentally just community by achieving the following goals:

- **Housing justice in Spokane:** We will pass strong tenant protections and fund permanent affordable housing to intentionally address racial disparities to provide equitable, stable, quality, safe, and accessible housing for all.
- **Immigrants and refugees will not live in fear:** We will enact and uphold policies to ensure that all people have a right to live in and visit Spokane without fear of interrogation by federal immigration authorities and can fully participate, engage civically, and be counted.
- **Civil and human rights, racial equity, and inclusion:** We will move local governments to clearly denounce hate, intolerance and bias in all forms and commit to racial equity and inclusion in a way that is transparent and accountable to the public by enacting policies, programs, and practices to lead this work.
- **Smart justice in our regional criminal justice system:** We will win effective, restorative solutions that are driven by the experiences and needs of those impacted by the criminal justice system, as the recovery and integration of those caught up in the criminal justice process is essential for a strong, healthy, and just community.
- **A culture of peace for Spokane:** We will use communication, cooperation, and collective action to remove reliance on militarism, violence or aggressive behaviors so as to reach outcomes of empathy, caring for, wellbeing of our neighborhoods, and dignity for our human community.
- **High quality, affordable early learning programs:** We will close the opportunity gap for children living in poverty, by supporting brain development and enhancing learning during the most critical years.
- **A more sustainable community to reduce the effects of climate change:** We will build a more sustainable, resilient community in harmony with our local environment and economy by promoting environmental justice for communities most impacted by environmental degradation; clean and healthy water and air; sustainable land use practices; multimodal transportation systems; sustainable business practices; and local food systems.

Greater Spokane Progress is a collaborative network united to build political strength and equity in our community.

To learn more go to: www.SpokaneProgress.org

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