



PRESS RELEASE

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Northwest Harvest Releases Solidarity Statement on Bodily Autonomy

Seattle, WA – On May 11, 2022, Northwest Harvest released a bodily autonomy solidarity statement to their supporters and partners. The statement was sent to homes in every county of Washington State. Some key messaging included in the statement:

- At Northwest Harvest, we believe in addressing the root causes of food insecurity. We envision a world free from hunger, in which all families have attained economic stability and are able to thrive. Cutting off access to essential health care, including reproductive care, ensures that marginalized communities will continue to be trapped in cycles of poverty, dependent on a social safety net and the charity of others, to meet needs for food, housing, and other essentials.
- Northwest Harvest works in solidarity with all communities who will be impacted by the potential repeal of Roe v. Wade and the cascade of legal and social repercussions of the recently leaked decision draft. We acknowledge that safe and accessible reproductive healthcare is lifesaving and life changing. We acknowledge that people of all genders need safe and accessible reproductive healthcare. We acknowledge that communities of color are likely to be disproportionately affected by this repeal. We acknowledge that safe and accessible reproductive healthcare directly challenges the systems of power built around white supremacy, capitalism, and patriarchy.
- We strongly believe hunger is the result of systems and policies that disproportionately impact the communities we strive to support and empower. Single female-headed households are three times more likely to experience food insecurity, compared to all households experiencing food insecurity. This same population is more likely to be impacted by forced birth policies.
- This issue is heavily politicized, even though 70% of Americans do not support the rollback of protections that would result in this change to legal precedent. 63% of Republicans also oppose the overturning of Roe v Wade.
- It is also worth calling attention to the fact that this decision is coming at a time of a wholesale attack on civil rights nationwide, particularly around bodily autonomy and access to gender-affirming healthcare for trans and gender non-conforming people. Northwest Harvest is in solidarity with all communities who are facing legal, social, political, and economic attacks on their fundamental human rights and will continue to fight alongside these communities in their pursuit of liberation and self-determination.

“We see the intersections of national and local policy decisions in our work around food justice,” says Thomas Reynolds, Chief Executive Officer of Northwest Harvest. “Nothing occurs in a vacuum – policies impact the communities we serve even if they aren’t explicitly about food access or nutrition assistance. Sharing this statement of solidarity is a way of honoring both the experiences and the dignity of the people we work with and reflects our desire to be reliable neighbors in Washington State.”

[The full solidary statement](#), including a list of actions supporters can take, is available on the website.

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