

WCADP Strategic Plan (2000-2005)

In January 2000 the leadership of the Washington Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (WCADP) met to revise and update the Strategic Plan. Below are the goals set for five years, three years and one year. These goals are consistent with each other and build toward the ultimate goals of cessation of the death penalty by abolition through legislation and other means, such as dissuading prosecutors from seeking the death penalty.

The primary focus of new initiatives, in addition to the ongoing services to individuals and families impacted by crime and the death penalty, is statewide organizing and public education. It our belief that a shift to more rational and reasoned debate will change public opinion and lead to changes in public policy and state law away from the death penalty.

The use of non-capital punishment, such as life sentence without parole, instead of capital punishment will advance the pursuit of fairness and justice in our society, eliminate the risk of executing innocent people, help stop the cycle of violence, free the community of exceptional costs at a time when other pressing needs go unmet, and allow the pursuit of other solutions to achieve the goal of community safety without the burdens and problems that the death penalty brings with it.

For more information on the means and approaches WCADP intends to achieve these goals, please contact the Coalition at ph: 206.622.8952 or email: info@abolishdeathpenalty.org.

- **Five Year Plan Goals (to be accomplished by January 1, 2005)**
 - Legislation and actions by elected officials
 - Abolition bill is passed by both legislative houses and signed by governor
 - Shifting public opinion; public education
 - Public opinion has shifted to 50-50% for/against death penalty
 - Capital punishment has become a topic of significant public discussion and an issue for elected officials
 - Case has been made that there is less healing for families and the community through the death penalty
 - Discussions on the death penalty are made more on facts than emotion
 - Executions and death row populations
 - No executions or increase of death row population
 - Continued services to inmates and families
 - Inmates not spending one year on IMU
 - Statewide organizing
 - WCADP has an active contact person in 25-30 of 39 Washington counties
 - 500 organizations of faith actively opposing death penalty

- National and global progress
 - Progress in other states on Abolition/Moratorium
 - Increased international pressure for Abolition
- **Three Year Plan Goals (to be accomplished by January 1, 2003)**
 - Legislation and actions by elected officials
 - Moratorium passed by Washington House of Representatives and Senate.
 - Governor has granted clemency prior to several executions
 - Shifting public opinion and public education
 - Public opinion is 60%-40% against Abolition
 - Some public discussion based on facts and rational argument is taking place
 - Abolition has editorial support of 2-3 newspapers, perhaps one big newspaper
 - Executions and death row populations
 - No increase of death row population
 - Continued services to inmates and families
 - Statewide organizing
 - 500 organizations of faith have signed statements opposing the death penalty, 50% have active programs of victim, family and inmate support.
 - There is a contact person in every Public Defenders office in the state.
 - WCADP has an alliance with 30 other interested organizations; low income, minorities, constituents.
 - All organizations on the WCADP letterhead are active
 - Regional committees are active
 - An alliance has been made with "right to life" groups
 - National and global progress
 - Progress in other states on Abolition/Moratorium
 - Increased international pressure for Abolition
- **One-year plan goals (to be accomplished by January 1, 2001)**
 - Legislation and actions by elected officials
 - There has been a hearing on Abolition/Moratorium in WA state Senate and House of Representatives
 - Shifting public opinion and public education
 - Full page advertisements have been published
 - Fact Sheets are written and printed
 - A high school Human Rights curriculum is written
 - WCADP has met with 10-12 editorial boards
 - Executions and death row populations
 - No increase of death row population
 - Continued services to inmates and families
 - Statewide organizing

- Washington People of Faith is in existence
- WCADP statement issued on how organizations of faith can advance Abolition
- An active statewide Speakers Bureau of 20 people is in existence
- WCADP has contact persons on college campuses
- There is a contact person in each region of the state
- WCADP membership knows position of all legislators on Abolition/Moratorium
- WCADP members have made a communication to those seeking elective office
- 25-30 Faith-based organizations have made a statement on Abolition
- WCADP has a contact person in 5-10 Public Defenders offices
- National and global progress
 - Progress in other states on Abolition/Moratorium
 - Increased international pressure for Abolition
- WCADP internal organization is upgraded for statewide organizing
 - Full time director hired
 - Strategic Plan is updated
 - Donations are up 50%
 - Committees are active and functioning
 - WCADP internal organization is working efficiently
 - WCADP Steering Committee is stronger
 - Legislative districts of WCADP membership are in WCADP database
 - Clear strategy has been developed to upgrade activism and expand membership
 - 75% of organizations on WCADP letterhead are active and relationship has been strengthened