

NORTHWEST SOCIAL FORUM — 2004

Operational Guiding Principles

In planning and carrying out the Northwest Social Forum, we will model the world we wish to create by embracing the following guiding principles:

- **CHARTER OF PRINCIPLES.** Participants agree to the Charter of Principles as defined by both the NWSF and the World Social Forum.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We commit to following through on what we say we will do. We are responsible to engage our communities about the goals, purpose, and opportunities of the NWSF. We hold ourselves accountable to our own communities, to one another, and other communities in struggles around the world.
- **TRANSPARENCY:** Information about the processes by which decisions are made, how resources are gathered and used, and who makes decisions are accessible to all. Conflicts of interest are identified and addressed.
- **INCLUSIVITY:** We commit to creating a space and a process that includes all of the diverse communities and peoples of the Northwest.
- **HORIZONTAL LEADERSHIP:** We are all equally the leaders in the movement.
- **PARTICIPATORY DECISION-MAKING:** We seek consensus in our decision-making and actions.
- **RESPECT FOR DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES:** We are willing to look at interconnections and to have a multiplicity of lenses through which we view the world. We ask: *What is best for everyone?* (not just *What is good for me?*). We listen without criticism.
- **NON-VIOLENCE:** The NWSF is committed to the principles of non-violence.