

Washington Policy Center does not represent greater Spokane

Dear Friends,

As Spokane-area voters, workers, business people, civic leaders and faith leaders, we reject the divisive political agenda the Washington Policy Center is promoting in our community.

The Washington Policy Center has flown in controversial ex-Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker for a paid political event in Spokane. Walker is notorious for his attacks on public schools, the environment and workers' rights — attacks that are out of sync with the values of Spokane-area residents.

The Washington Policy Center is attempting to spread that same divisive national agenda here in the Spokane region. We oppose their attempts to influence our community. The Washington Policy Center is not the independent "think tank" it claims to be, but a political operation that promotes the interests of the ultra-wealthy at the expense of the rest of us.

The Washington Policy Center is not fully open and transparent about its funding, but it is clear that it is bankrolled by out-of-state corporate interests, foundations and billionaires to promote a national political agenda that is harmful to Spokane-area families and our economy.

The Washington Policy Center's outsider agenda includes:

- Privatizing public education by diverting local public school funding to private organizations
- Weakening environmental protections, sacrificing clean air and water
- Restricting workers' right to advocate for fair pay and working conditions, making it harder to support our families



Washington Policy Center speaker Scott Walker is notorious for his attacks on public schools, the environment and workers' rights

Simply put, the Washington Policy Center doesn't represent greater Spokane.

As residents of the Spokane region, we do not need or want out-of-state politicians, billionaires and groups like the Washington Policy Center telling us what's best for our community or deciding which public policies we enact.

Unlike the groups funding the Washington Policy Center, we live here, and we actually care about what happens here. Our vision for the Inland Empire is a positive one — one in which all of us work together as a community to decide our future and that lifts up all of us.

We, the undersigned Spokane-area individuals and groups, are committed to working together to create a stronger, healthier, economically successful community for all of the residents of greater Spokane. We call on Greater Spokane, Inc., to join with us and not to co-sponsor divisive events such as the Washington Policy Center's Solutions Summit.

AFSCME Council 28/WFSE
Ara Lyman, Owner, Spokane Yoga Shala
Audra Shaw, President, Cheney Education Association
Autumn Reed, President, Spokane Chapter, National Organization for Women, NOW
Ben Stuckart, President, Spokane City Council
Bob Adolfsen, Owner and Operator, The Glover Mansion
Breean Beggs, Member, Spokane City Council
Brett Wideman, Business Mgr, Plumbers & Steamfitters UA Local 44
Carla Naccarato-Sinclair, President, Community Colleges of Spokane/AHE (faculty union)
Chad Brayton, President, Mead Combined Trades Association
Cheri Stockman, President, West Valley Spokane Education Association
Cheryl A. Miller, Union Representative, Teamsters Local 117
Cheryl Demke, President, Deer Park Education Association
Council 2, Washington State Council of County and City Employees AFSCME AFL-CIO
Dana Oxford, Operator, Niche Coworking
Ed Wood, Chair, and Jac Archer, Vice Chair, Spokane County Democrats*
Eric Renner, President, United Food & Commercial Workers Local 1439
Georgina Redmond, Co-President, East Valley of Spokane Education Association
Glenn Ward, Owner, BumbleBar Inc. Greater Spokane Progress

International Assoc of Firefighters, L876, Spokane Valley
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 242
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, IBEW Local 73
James Garrett, Secretary/Field Representative, Int'l Union of Operating Engineers Local 302
Jeanine Coghlan, Co-President, East Valley of Spokane Education Association
Jerry E. LeClaire, MD
Jim Bannister, President, Nine Mile Falls Education Association
Jim Dawson, Program Director, Fuse Washington
Jim Sheehan, Civic Leader
Joe Sheehan, Operator, The Magic Lantern Theater, LLC
John Morse, Financial Sec-Treas and Business Manager, Ironworkers Local 14
Joseph Hancock, President, Washington Federation of State Employees Local 1221*
Kate Burke, Member, Spokane City Council
Katy Henry, President, Spokane Education Association
Kurtis Robinson, President, Spokane NAACP #1137 and Criminal Justice Chair, Alaska Oregon WA State - Area Conference
Liz Moore, Executive Director, Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane
Local 270 AFSCME, Spokane City Employees
Lori Kinnear, Member, Spokane City Council
Mandy Manning, 2018 National Teacher of the Year

Marcus Riccelli, State Representative, 3rd Legislative District
Maureen Ramos, Past President, Spokane Education Association
Michael Conlin, President, United Faculty of Eastern, AFT/NEA
Mike Allen, President, Freeman Education Association
Mike Dunn, Superintendent, NorthEast Washington Educational Service District 101*
Nikki Lockwood, School Equity Advocate
Northeastern Washington - Northern Idaho Building and Construction Trades Council
Pastor Walter Kendricks, President, Ministerial Fellowship of Spokane
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Greater Washington and North Idaho
Rebecca MacMullan, Co-Chair, 350 Spokane
Rev. Jonathan Myers, Vicar, West Central Episcopal Mission and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Robbi Anthony, Owner, Firedove Technology
Roofers Local 189
Ryan Grant, President, Medical Lake Education Association
Scott Holstrom, Business Mgr/ Sec. Treas, Local 238 of Laborers International Union of North America
SEIU Healthcare 1199NW
Sheli Brown, President, Nine Mile Falls Classified Public Employees Association
Spokane Alliance
Spokane Community Against Racism
Spokane Indivisible

Spokane Regional Labor Council, AFL-CIO
Spokane Veterans for Peace
Steve Biljan, President, Riverside Education Association
Steve Powers, Sub-District Director, United Steelworkers District 12 Sub-District 3
Susan Young, Executive Board Member, Service Employees International Union Local 775, *the caregivers union*
Teamsters Local Union #690
Teodora Bernadeta Baba, President, Teinnovadora Trade Company
The Rev. Debra L. Conklin, United Methodist Pastor, Chaplain, The Oak Tree
The Reverend Rick Matters (Episcopal)
Thomas Leighty, President/Business Agent, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1015
Tim Archer, President, Spokane Firefighters Local 29
Toby Doolittle, President, Mead Education Association
United Food and Commercial Workers Local 21
Upper Columbia River Group, Sierra Club
Vicky Jensen, President, WEA Eastern Washington
Wally Watson, President, Central Valley Education Association
Wanda Emmert, President, Inland Empire Area Local 338, American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO

* Signing as an individual