

WHY WE MARCH, from page 9

Causa, Oregon's immigrant rights organization

We will march one week before Trump's presidential inauguration as part of a national day of action to build community, celebrate our immigrant heritage and defiantly pledge to protect immigrants from hateful attacks and policies. We are marching to stand united for immigrant rights in Oregon by bringing together leaders from the faith, labor, business, and immigrant and refugee communities. We call on our local elected officials and leaders to do everything in their power to ensure Oregon is a welcoming state for all communities.

National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 82

I am marching with fellow postal workers because: As a letter carrier and lover of America's treasure, the U.S. Postal Service, I am fearful that the Trump agenda will severely damage mail service and hundreds of thousands of living wage, union jobs. One of The Donald's first agenda items is to freeze federal hiring. My labor union estimates that 15,000 letter carrier jobs would be lost each year. The only way mail could continue to be delivered is with a reduction in service – to five, four or three days a week. Or by eliminating at-the-door delivery and forcing residents to trek to "cluster boxes" blocks away from their home. Or by closing or reducing hours at post offices.

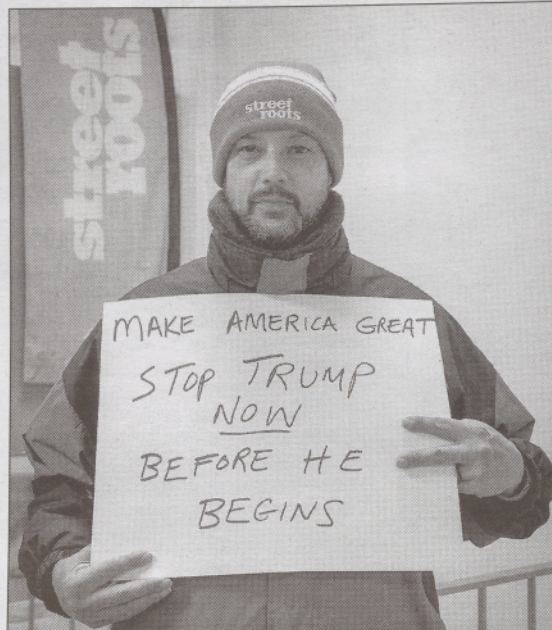
– *Jamie Partridge, retired letter carrier*

Basic Rights Oregon, LGBTQ equality

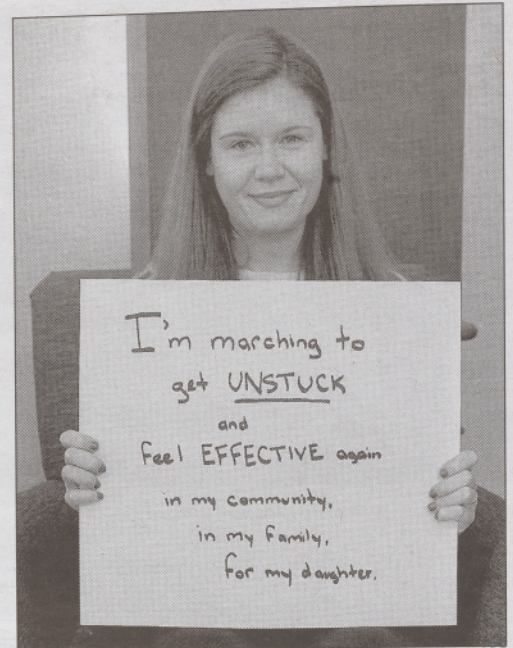
We are marching because: One of our co-executive directors is a queer Muslim woman from an immigrant family. A quarter of our staff are transgender; half of our staff are people of color. We reflect the communities we work in: immigrant and communities of color, transgender communities and communities outside the Portland metro. And the Trump administration threatens all of them. Now more than ever, our community needs us to be the first line of defense for LGBTQ justice in Oregon.

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon

We are marching because: Extreme politicians want to shut down Planned Parenthood health centers, which would deny millions of people access to the cancer screenings, birth control, STD and HIV testing and treatment and other care they rely on. If these politicians succeed, it would be a national health disaster and throw our country into chaos. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon will march to make sure every single politician knows that we won't back down, we won't be silenced, and we will not let these politicians attack our health and rights!



Eric Hunsaker, 45, a Street Roots vendor who sells papers at Northwest 23rd and Johnson, will attend Portland's Inauguration Day Protest.



Kelly Strider, 38, a therapist from North Portland, will participate in the Women's March in Washington, D.C.

Oregon educators, a message from participating educators

We are marching because: Students are like our own children. We, as public school educators, feel a need to educate, inform and protect those students. We prepare to do whatever it takes to make sure they are safe in all conditions. As a new administration moves into office, we are obligated to defend those children, their families, the institution of fairness and equal protection, and the safety nets established for the betterment of those we care about – including the most vulnerable. We march to be their voices and our voice of equality in our schools and all of America.

– *Deborah Barnes, Oregon Education Association member*

350PDX, local chapter of global climate movement

We are joining inauguration weekend mobilizations to protest Trump's hateful agenda and replace it with one that seeks transformative systemic change, one that is full of compassion and strengthens our community's resilience, especially for those who are being oppressed. Deeply connected to this is our mission to ensure a rapid transition from fossil fuels. During the marches, we'll join a "Climate Block" to raise awareness of fossil fuel threats here locally. Change always comes from people taking to the streets and then becoming active to create the change we want and need. Join us!

NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon

We are marching on the first day of this new administration to send a very strong statement: This isn't just about reproductive rights. We acknowledge the need for inclusivity in our movement and are marching to unify against the hateful racist, xenophobic, homophobic, bigoted and sexist reality of the new administration. We march for reproductive self-determination for all people, including meaningful access to affordable, high-quality health care services. We march as a step toward unifying our communities to create change by centering the experiences and voices of those most affected.



PHOTO BY DIEGO DIAZ