

# **Progressive Women of Greater Hartford**

## **Courage and Action Declaration**

### **Who We Are**

**Progressive Women of Greater Hartford (ProWo) is a grassroots group of women activists in the Greater Hartford Area. We are advocates and changemakers who share progressive values and are dedicated to defending democracy.**

***We work to amplify Women's voices in political and social movements that embody inclusivity, equality, justice, and human rights for all. Preserving these cornerstones of democracy defines our activism.***

ProWo's Declaration intentionally echoes the Declaration of Independence as well as the Declaration of Sentiment presented at the first Women's Rights Convention, July 19-20, 1848. It is housed at the Women's Rights National Historical Park

(<https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>)

### **These are the truths our country is founded upon:**

All People are created Equal, each person has inalienable rights and among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. Securing these rights is the role of government and just government is derived from and answers to the consent of all the governed.

Whenever any form of government seeks to destroy these rights, it is our right to refuse allegiance to it. It is also our right to insist upon a government dedicated to those principles, not one that endangers our safety and happiness.

This charge calls for direct resistance to government that threatens inalienable rights for all people. The current administration engaged in repeated acts of executive overreach that taken together indicate a plan to eliminate the people's rights and impose absolute control.

We are in **Crisis** and call for **Courage and URGENT Action** to meet this moment!

## **Courage and Action—The What**

It is critical that there is a written platform of resistance, strategy, and reset.

There must be coordinated planning, action, and communication about the implementation of this plan throughout the current administration, for the 2026 midterm, and 2028 Presidential election.

Whether in or out of office, our Democratic leaders must be committed to guiding us toward rights that are fundamental to our nation's founding.

ProWo declares these rights as a priority:

- ✓ Protecting Constitutional Due Process
- ✓ Passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act
- ✓ Protecting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid
- ✓ Restoring Arbitrary Cuts to Government Agencies
- ✓ Restoring Arbitrary Cuts to Public and Private Institutions
- ✓ Ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment
- ✓ Federal Legislation for Women's Reproductive Rights
- ✓ Federal Legislation for LGBTQ+ Rights
- ✓ Recommitting USA to Global Leadership Policies
- ✓ Restricting Presidential Immunity
- ✓ Redefining the Conditions of Executive Privilege
- ✓ Passing Immigration Reform
- ✓ Increasing Federal Taxes at the Highest Income Levels
- ✓ Rejoining the Paris Climate Accords and Legislating Environmental Protections
- ✓ Implementing a National Assault Weapons Ban
- ✓ Enacting Accountability Standards for the Supreme Court

## Courage and Action--The Who

We expect Democratic leadership to unite behind the actions needed to reset our government. This calls for a program of precise messaging that is insistent, consistent, and persistent. ProWo envisions a **We the People Cabinet (WPC)** to initiate this work.

The **WPC** will use their expertise to criticize policy, offer alternatives, provide commentary, and function as a “shadow” cabinet. The **WPC’s** adherence to the Constitution and the rule of law will guide their messaging.

A **WPC** roster should reflect representation by age, gender, race, ethnicity, professional expertise, and geographical location. Members must be outstanding communicators who have broad appeal and ideally have already been vocal about protecting our democracy.

Possible **WPC** members:

Stacey Abrams, Angela Alsobrooks, Michael Bennet, Cory Booker, Pete Buttigieg, Liz Cheney, Hillary Clinton, Jasmine Crockett, Tammy Duckworth, Marc Elias, Maxwell Frost, Ruben Gallego, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Kamala Harris, Jahana Hayes, Maura Healey, David Hogg, Letitia James, Hakeem Jeffries, Mark Kelly, Adam Kinzinger, Amy Klobuchar, Ken Martin, Wes Moore, Chris Murphy, Barack Obama, Michelle Obama, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, JB Pritzker, Gina Raimondo, Jamie Raskin, Robert Reich, Luz Rivas, Bernie Sanders, Brian Schatz, Adam Schiff, Josh Shapiro, Elissa Slotkin, Timothy Snyder, William Tong, Laurence Tribe, Tim Walz, Mark Warner, Raphael Warnock, Elizabeth Warren, Gretchen Whitmer, Ben Wikler. One member of the **WPC** would take the lead developing a specific topic/action. The lead would work with a subgroup to finalize insistent, consistent messaging.

Messaging could feature personal story videos or in-person testimonials from citizens across the country whose lives, or lives of friends and loved ones, have been or will be impacted adversely and will be improved with the implementation of action priorities.

## **Courage and Action—The How**

Outgoing messaging needs to be rapid, far-reaching, and consistent across all platforms.

The DNC War Room concept can be used to support **WPC** communications, research, and mobilization activities with a goal to drive a coordinated, cohesive DAILY message at the same time every weekday (like the Covid press conferences).

Targeted messaging to Americans across information platforms about this **Courage and Action Agenda** will be powerful in combating misinformation and informing ALL voters.

Daily Rapid Response should be delivered through multiple vehicles:

- At the Grassroots level through state and local pro-democracy groups
- Across Social Media and Influencer Networks
- Throughout Conservative Media Spaces
- Conventional Broadcast and Print Media

## **Join ProWo's Call for Courage & Action--The Time is NOW!**

ProWo is available for pro-democracy civilian support, focus group help, and to deliver any pro-democracy messaging to and through its membership. Please contact Jane Zande, ProWo coordinator at [prowo462@gmail.com](mailto:prowo462@gmail.com)