

ANARCHIST PRINCIPLES

- * **Social Anarchism** - We primarily work from a vision of social Anarchism; a vision of shared resources and community support built around the empowerment of the individual and the decentralization of power.
- * **Individual Sovereignty** - You contribute your energy on your own terms.
- * **Mutual Aid** - Acting together for shared benefit through the voluntary exchange of resources and services.
- * **Distributed Power** - No one has more power than anyone else. People work together on equal footing.
- * **Direct action** - Creating change or highlighting issues without relying on government or other indirect methods to accomplish goals.
- * **Empower Individuals** - By giving people the creative space to experience and experiment with their personal power, as well as their ability to impact their community, we will fan the flame(s) of self-liberation inside the hearts of our community.
- * **Autonomy** - Individual's ideas and energies are important and encouraged.
- * **Transformative Solidarity** - We are committed to act in solidarity for the collective liberation of all.

NAC PRINCIPLES

- * **Inclusivity** - We welcome anyone interested in the mission and principles of this group.
- * **Love-Focused** - We commit to a radical love for our communities, our families, ourselves, and the earth.
- * **Wholeness** - We bring our whole selves to this group and respect the often emotional nature of social justice work and collective process. We strive to set aside our egos and the masks we often put on in public places in order to respect and appreciate everyone for who they are and the unique things they bring to our community.
- * **Build for the Long Term** - Projects we take on will lay the foundation for a stronger organization and larger projects in the future, whether they are entirely successful or not.
- * **Strategic Nonviolence and Self Determination** - As a group, we will mobilize using strategic nonviolence while respecting the right of communities to protect themselves.
- * **Joyous** - In a world full of drudgery and fear, we bring playfulness and joy to our projects.

NEIGHBORHOOD ANARCHIST COLLECTIVE

The Neighborhood Anarchist Collective (NAC) strives to grow the anarchist movement through strategic direct action and by providing a welcoming



environment for education and participation. We organize locally to help build a society where neighbors support each other to meet basic needs, individuals are free to follow their passions, and empowered communities collectively shape the future.

neighborhoodanarchists.org
contact@neighborhoodanarchists.org
facebook.com/neighborhoodanarchists

PROJECTS

Projects are the heart of what we do. We work creatively together to effect positive change in our communities. We prioritize projects that:

- 1) **Serve and educate the community**
- 2) **Give people a sense of their own power**
- 3) **Shift power from government and corporations to people and communities.**

Affinity Groups work autonomously on direct action or other projects. They challenge top-down decision-making and organizing, and empower those involved to take creative direct action. Affinity groups are decentralized and nonhierarchical - two important principles of anarchist organizing and action. Affinity group projects that align with the NAC mission and principles may be invited to become a public NAC project.

NAC Projects arise naturally from affinity group projects that align with the mission and principles and incite passion and energy from those in the collective.

DECISION MAKING

Consensus is used to decide major decisions and the general direction of a team; the advice process is used for less consequential decisions.

The **Advice Process** is used to access collective wisdom in pursuit of a sound decision. **One can make a decision after seeking advice from 1) everyone who will be meaningfully affected, and 2) people with expertise in the matter.** With the advice and perspectives the decision maker receives, they choose what they believe to be the best course of action.

Consensus is a cooperative process in which group members develop and agree to support a decision in the best interest of the whole. A decision may not be everyone's personal preference, but is something that all can agree is worth trying. The wisdom of the group is synthesized through active listening, shared purpose, preparation, deliberation, and a focus on issues and solutions.

Note: This handout is greatly summarized. Learn more about each section at neighborhoodanarchists.org/structure

TEAMS

The teams are where most of the work gets done. They exist to support NAC, the projects, affinity groups, and projects outside of the collective that align with NAC.

Logistics - Material Resources, Fund-raising, Money, Event Planning

Facilitation - Facilitating General Gatherings, Internal Communications

Communications - Social Media, Art, Web Content, External Comms

Nurturing - Interpersonal relationships, Welcome Orientations, Conflict Resolution, Fun Internal Events

Coordination* - Recognizing Official NAC Projects, Editing the Structure Documents, Healthy Collective Functioning, (Other things that aren't covered by another team will be added to this list as they are realized.)

*As having a coordination group is potentially problematic, we take steps to be transparent, accountable, reduce power imbalances, and provide a clear path into the team for those interested in sharing in the work.

COLLECTIVE NORMS

- * **No intentional perpetuation of any harmful power structure will be tolerated.** (Racism, sexism, transphobia, ableism, etc.)
- * **Mistakes are human; assume best intentions.** We are all continually working to unpack harmful behaviors and language.
- * **We act in solidarity, not charity,** with marginalized groups and individuals.
- * **Emotional labor will be respected,** in the name of voluntary association and mutual support. We respect each other.
- * **We treat each other with the respect of equals.** We are a horizontally- organized collective. No one has a higher rank than anyone else.

Want to get involved or learn more about NAC?
We hold regular Welcome Introductions for new people!
Check neighborhoodanarchists.org/events for details on the next one.
Or contact us contact@neighborhoodanarchists.org