

## Jefferson County Democrats - 2010 Platform - Approved April 10, 2010

We believe in the values of community, dignity, equality, opportunity, fairness, respect and tolerance. These values provide the basis for the ideals of liberty and justice as provided in the United States Constitution. We believe public policy must be inspired by our ideals, and our actions based on our values and knowledge rather than our fears.

We believe the resources of Jefferson County can and should be used to provide a safe, secure and healthy quality of life for all. Jefferson County is best served when its citizens, business leaders and elected and appointed representatives of its government entities cooperate to solve problems together.

Actions define society. To fulfill the potential of our ideals and values we encourage every citizen to participate in local civic activities. We invite all to join with us and work to have our elected leaders implement legislation that ensures liberty and justice for all.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - A skilled labor force, affordable housing, robust transportation options, natural resources, quality health and education services, and fair-wage jobs are critical to our economic future. Open, proactive collaborations among businesses, citizens and government agencies will build a dynamic and sustainable economy for Jefferson County.

**LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION** - We support policies to improve food security for Jefferson County. We believe local food is a necessary component of our broader economy. We support efforts to help local producers establish themselves, successfully market their products and assure adequate income for their families and employees.

**HEALTH CARE** - We believe that access to affordable and quality mental and physical health care is an essential human right and we support policies and efforts to provide those services here.

**INFRASTRUCTURE** - We support government efforts to ensure Jefferson County has safe and reliable infrastructure (for transportation, water, sewer, broad-band, electricity) to create opportunities for residents to enjoy fuller and richer lives.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP** - We advocate and support activities that preserve and protect valuable natural systems and resources by recognizing that protection of natural habitat is integral to our county's well being, including its economic welfare.

**EDUCATION** - We support efforts of local education at all levels to provide students with the breadth and depth of knowledge and skills they will need to succeed in the world.

**RIGHTS AND JUSTICE** - Our unalienable rights depend on the sound administration of justice. We advocate and support innovations in community policing in accordance with constitutional protections with emphasis on prevention and rehabilitation.

**FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY** – We recognize that public funds are precious resources to be mindfully acquired and used for the common good.