



## **Core Values of the Loudoun County Democratic Committee**

Democrats believe that the lives and concerns we share with our fellow Americans must be the cornerstone of democratically-elected governmental institutions at the local, state and national levels. These institutions, at their best, can be instrumental to sustain and promote opportunity, equality, freedom and justice for all. Accordingly, Democrats share and actively protect these core values:

### **Democracy:**

We believe that the people participating with equal voices in public decision-making are the fundamental source of legitimate government authority in a democracy.

### **Freedom:**

We believe the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness means freedom from arbitrary government or economic power, and from unjust barriers to each person's ability to live a productive, fulfilling life.

### **Equality:**

We believe that every human being deserves to be treated equally, with dignity and respect regardless of national origin, religious belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, skin color, ethnicity, immigration or economic status.

### **Public Good:**

We believe it is the responsibility of government at all levels to efficiently protect and promote the public good as determined by the people working through our democratic political institutions, and ensure that the economy creates enough jobs that provide a living wage for all.

### **Justice:**

We believe government at all levels has an obligation to design and administer laws that apply equally to all, with concern for those at the margins of society.

### **Citizenship:**

We believe an active, informed citizenry, supported by strong public schools, and informed by a free and responsible press, is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy. Government officials have an obligation to promote civic education and expand participation in public decision-making.

### **Natural Environment:**

We believe the land, air, water, and other resources of the natural environment are the very conditions for the lives we share in common. We are the stewards of those resources for future generations.