

ABOUT US

A Leading Voice In Reproductive Rights and Justice.



The New Orleans Abortion Fund is has engaged its members, supporters and the larger community in advocacy since its founding in 2012 when it honored long-time clinic administrator Sylvia Cochran for her decades of service. As a member of the National Network of Abortion Funds (<http://abortionfunds.org>) and the All* Above All (<http://allaboveall.org/>) coalition, NOAF works to oppose federal anti-choice legislation like the Hyde Amendment . Every year, Congress attaches a rider to the federal budget that prevents federal money from going to abortion care for people on Medicaid, Medicare for disability, federal employees, Peace Corps volunteers, people who use Indian Health Service, and many others.

To bring attention to this harmful legislation, NOAF hosts its annual Sex Ed Bingo fundraiser where supporters can take action to oppose the law. In 2016 NOAF held its first-ever End Hyde Bike Ride.

As a founding member of the Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, the New Orleans Abortion Fund has lead the charge against anti-choice legislation in Louisiana, beginning in 2013 when the Louisiana Department of Health issued "emergency regulations" that would have immediately closed the existing five abortion clinics. Since then, NOAF has testified in committee during the Louisiana legislative session; engaged the media in print, television and radio interviews; held press conferences and organized rallies to oppose anti-choice regulations and legislation.

Learn More About Our Team



Amy Irvin, Executive Director

As a founding board member of the New Orleans Abortion Fund, Amy spent many evenings during the summer/fall of 2012 at a local coffee shop thinking about the organization's mission, writing the articles of incorporation, planning fundraising events and recruiting members. Amy served as the first intake coordinator of the Fund. Committed to coalition building, Amy serves on the executive committee of the Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom and represents NOAF at meetings of the Legislative Agenda for Women (LAW), as well as serving as a community liaison to student organizations. With a background in community and union organizing, she has recently gotten involved in supporting the Show Me \$15 campaign in New Orleans. She holds a MSSW from the University of Louisville.

Winter Claire Randall, Clinic Escort Coordinator

Born and raised on the West Bank of New Orleans, Winter Claire Randall obtained her B.A. in English from the University of New Orleans. She has worked in a variety of professions, including Insurance, Real Estate, Web Development, Publishing, Higher Education, Retail Operations, and Legal Administration. A lifelong feminist, Winter is the State Director for UniteWomen.org Louisiana, co-organizer for New Orleans Slut Walk, an active participant in the Sexual Assault Response Team in New Orleans, a member of the Independent Women's Organization and National Organization for Women, a clinic escort with the New Orleans Abortion Fund, and an Internet rabble-rouser. She has completed the District Attorney's Citizen's Academy and the Mayor's Civic Leadership Academy, and is enrolled to participate in the New Orleans Police Department's Citizens Academy. She is also involved with adult and children's literacy efforts in the community, as well as animal welfare. In her non-existent spare time, she watches True Crime Documentaries and BBC murder mysteries, posts pictures of her husband, three dogs, two cats, and one turtle online, and is taking sewing classes.

Cat Patteson, Intake Coordinator

Catherine "Cat" Patteson is a trauma informed mental health professional and community organizer with over a decade of experience working with diverse populations in settings ranging from small non-profits to large healthcare systems. She has previously worked with NOAF as a founding member and the VP of Education and Outreach of Social Work students United for Reproductive Freedom (SWURF). She is a Licensed Master Social Worker and holds advanced degrees from the University of North Carolina Greensboro with a BA in Psychology and Tulane University with a Master's in Social Work with a Certificate in Disaster Mental Health and Trauma Studies, and a Master's of Science in Disaster Resilience and Leadership. In addition to reproductive justice, she is passionate about immigrant justice and prison reform. When she isn't fighting oppressive systems, she likes spending time with her husband and two dogs. She is excited to formally join the NOAF team as the Intake Volunteer Coordinator and hopes to continue to build up the engagement and empowerment of their members and partners!

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