

## Individual Statement from NOAF's Interim Escort Coordinator

As of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the NOAF Escort program will be on hiatus, indefinitely. I have made this decision based on escort behavior, including myself, towards clinic staff, fellow escorts, and to protesters. We are supposed to be a community based, patient focused program. The actions of escorts and how this program has been running is not helpful to the clinic or follows our mission statement. During my time as Coordinator, I have been insulted, had my directions not followed, and disrespected by fellow escorts. Overall, our mentality is harmful and is based in entitlement and saviorism.

The program we have now was not built with the Women's Health Care Center in mind. It was built with protesters as the focus. This is harmful to patients and not sustainable. I plan to work hard during the coming months to build a new program based on community and with the Women's Health Care Center patients and staff as our focus.

The escorts have dedicated their time and hard work every shift at WHCC. With proper retraining and new de-escalation training, I know we can create a healthier culture within our passionate group. I hope to return with fresh minds and hearts as an escort/legal observer program, only if the clinic allows. WHCC has the final say if we are an escort program. Without them we cannot call ourselves clinic escorts.

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