

Introducing Noah Martin - in his own words

Noah Martin is a traveller, musician, and activist who grew up here in Washington. Focusing on education and criminal justice policy, Noah earned his B.A. in comparative politics from Oberlin College before serving as the manager and recruiter of a mentoring program for at-risk youth. Seeing the devastation that homelessness can cause to families, Noah went on to work for the Downtown Emergency Services Center supporting the most vulnerable people in Seattle. Having worked directly in the fields of youth development and homelessness, Noah brings a much-needed fresh perspective to Olympia with a talent for examining problems on a systemic level.

Noah's experience has taught him that any effective policy needs to be constructed from the ground up, responding directly to needs as they are expressed by the community itself. In his work, Noah seeks to be ever mindful of the credo of Lilla Watson, "If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together." A listener at heart, Noah encourages Friends and their allies to reach out, communicate and teach him how to best represent the Friends community of Washington.