



## SAFEGUARDING CATHOLIC VALUES

1. [Does Catholic Campaign for Human Development \(CCHD\) fund groups acting against Catholic values?](#)
2. [What about participation in coalitions for a good purpose, like better wages or housing, that include groups acting against Catholic values on other issues?](#)
3. [Does CCHD fund organizations closely associated with the pro-abortion movement?](#)

As the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, CCHD is deeply rooted in Catholic teaching and guided by the USCCB's priorities. The program's mission seeks to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ to "... to bring good news to the poor ... release to captives ... sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free." (Luke 4:18) By helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities, CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out.

### 1. Does CCHD fund groups acting against Catholic values?

No. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development fully upholds our Church's teaching on the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception through natural death. The CCHD funds projects that empower people living in poverty to come together and seek systemic solutions to pull themselves out of poverty. All grant applicants are carefully screened and funds are provided only to projects with objectives and actions that are fully in accord with the moral teaching of the Catholic Church. The local CCHD diocesan director and national grants staff evaluate every proposal. Every project recommended for funding requires endorsement by the local bishop.

The Review and Renewal put in place stronger policies and clearer mechanisms to screen and monitor grants and groups to ensure that CCHD funds go to organizations that uphold the life and dignity of the human person in every way. CCHD will do all it can to ensure that groups abide by these strengthened requirements and will act immediately and decisively if it is discovered that any group is violating these essential conditions for CCHD support.

CCHD takes every allegation that a group is working against Catholic values, very seriously. Catholics can be assured that any group that engages in activity contrary to Church teaching, such as to promote abortion or same-sex marriage is ineligible for CCHD funding because this is a clear violation of the CCHD funding criteria and guidelines. Together with the local diocese, each allegation is rigorously reviewed. If at any point CCHD finds proof that a group is in fact working against Catholic values, policy requires that their grant be immediately canceled. Out of the 2010-2011 funded groups, CCHD found that one organization violated the CCHD grant agreement. Their grant was canceled and the group was not eligible to reapply for funding.

CCHD welcomes useful information or concerns about its grant making processes or funded groups. Any allegation of improper activity will be immediately reviewed, investigated and acted upon.

### 2. What about participation in coalitions for a good purpose, like better wages or housing, that include groups acting against Catholic values on other issues?

CCHD encourages groups to work across geographical, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological lines to overcome poverty and advance the common good. However, CCHD will not fund groups that are knowingly members of coalitions which have as part of their organizational purpose or coalition agenda, positions or actions that contradict fundamental Catholic moral and social teaching (e.g. promotion or support of abortion, same-sex marriage, euthanasia, racism, as well as use of the death penalty punitive measures toward immigrants, etc.). Prohibited activities include participation in or endorsing actions that promote legislation, ballot initiatives (including voter guides and other written materials)

that contradict Catholic moral or social teaching. Actions of other coalition partners on non-coalition issues or issues not agreed upon by the coalition members, calls for a different moral analysis. CCHD has engaged a moral theologian for additional guidance in ethical implications of these relationships and what is morally acceptable and what is not for CCHD funded groups.

**3. Does CCHD fund organizations closely associated with the pro-abortion movement?**

No. Catholic Campaign for Human Development fully upholds our Church's teaching on the sanctity of human life from conception through natural death. The Campaign funds projects that empower the poor and help them organize themselves to move out of poverty. All grant applicants are carefully screened and funds are provided only to projects with objectives and actions that are fully in accord with the moral teaching of the Catholic Church. The local CCHD diocesan director and national grants staff evaluate every proposal. Every project recommended for funding requires endorsement by the local bishop.

The funding criteria, including the fact that projects must be in conformity with the moral guidelines of the Catholic Church, are specified from the earliest stages of the application process. Projects are monitored through regular reporting and on-site visits. Funding is discontinued if projects deviate from their initial objective into areas inconsistent with the moral teaching of the Catholic Church.