



ACORN

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1. What is the current status of ACORN's CCHD funding?

CCHD does not fund ACORN organizations (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now). In June 2008, CCHD cut off funding of grants to ACORN groups because of questions that arose about financial management, fiscal transparency and organizational accountability of the national ACORN structures.

During the CCHD Bishops Subcommittee meeting November 8-9, 2008, the Subcommittee voted unanimously to extend and formalize ending CCHD funding of ACORN organizations. This decision was made because of serious concerns regarding ACORN's lack of financial transparency, organizational performance, and questions surrounding political partisanship.

2. Why did CCHD fund ACORN?

CCHD funded local ACORN organizations that were evaluated and found worthy of CCHD funding. Each of the groups went through the rigorous review process that all CCHD funded organizations go through, including national and local review of applications, diocesan site visits and approval of the Ordinary of each diocese in which ACORN groups worked. Various local ACORN groups organized low income people for the common good with integrity, responsible for work such as tackling predatory lending, increasing state minimum wage levels and addressing the lack of affordable and safe housing.

Once questions arose about financial management, fiscal transparency and organizational accountability of the national ACORN structures, CCHD stopped funding ACORN groups. Shortly after, the national ACORN organization dissolved in the United States.

3. New coverage regarding CCHD and ACORN

- [CCHD ends funding to ACORN over financial irregularities](#) -Oct-16-2008
By Dennis Sadowski
[Catholic News Service](#)
- [Report of Bishop Roger Morin, Chairman Subcommittee on Catholic Campaign for Human Development\(CCHD\) on CCHD and ACORN](#) - November 11, 2008