

# Kennebec Valley Organization

<http://kennebecvalleyorganization.org>

**CCHD Grant: \$30,000**

## **The Problem:**

- A partner with Engage Maine, a coalition which collected signatures for pro-same-sex-marriage.
- Member of “Maine Can Do Better” coalition that promotes contraceptive use.

## **The Response:**

After contacting the local diocese with initial findings in July, American Life League never heard back. However, it is possible that Bishop Malone’s transfer to another diocese during this time explains this lack of communication.

ALL scheduled a meeting with the Executive Director of National CCHD to discuss the report. The meeting was subsequently cancelled by CCHD with the explanation, “we see no reason to meet at this time.”

## 2011-2012 CCHD GRANTEES

If you have questions or concerns about CCHD, the Review and Renewal or any of these groups or grants, please contact Ralph McCloud, CCHD Director at [rmccloud@usccb.org](mailto:rmccloud@usccb.org) or 202-541-3367.

<u>Arch/diocese</u>	<u>Organization Legal Name</u>	<u>Fund/Primary Focus</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>
AREA A\Connecticut\Hartford	Teach Our Children	Community Development EDUCATION	\$35,000.00
AREA A\Maine\Portland	Kennebec Valley Organization, Inc.	Community Development ECONOMIC JUSTICE	\$30,000.00
AREA A\Maine\Portland	Food and Medicine	Community Development WORKERS' RIGHTS	\$35,000.00



The Review and Renewal of the Campaign for Human Development specifically states that **“CCHD will not fund groups that are members of coalitions which have as their organizational purpose or coalition agenda, positions or actions that contradict fundamental Catholic moral and social teaching.”** The following coalition memberships in this report are clear violations of this guideline.



**The Review and Renewal of  
The Catholic Campaign for Human Development  
As Accepted and Affirmed by the USCCB Administrative Committee  
September 15, 2010**

Other questions address CCHD funding for some groups that abide by CCHD policies, but are also part of coalitions focused on worthy issues (e.g. immigration, health or housing) in cases where those coalitions or other members are accused of taking positions contrary to Catholic teaching. CCHD will not fund groups that are 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. CCHD is developing additional structures and guidance to address in greater detail the ethical implications of these relationships and what is morally acceptable and what is not for CCHD funded groups.



# PARTNERS

ENGAGE MAINE TABLE PARTNERS

STEERING COMMITTEE

Carla Dickstein  
Coastal Enterprises Inc.

Kennebec Valley is a partner with Engage Maine, a coalition which collected signatures for support of same-sex-marriage.



- \* EqualityMaine
- \* Family Planning Association of Maine
- \* Katahdin Institute
- \* Kennebec Valley Organization
- \* League of Young Voters
- \* Maine AFL-CIO

<http://www.engagemaine.org/web/partners.html>

In this public statement, Ben Dudley, Executive Director for Engage Maine, stated that the Engage Maine coalition collected petition signatures for same-sex marriage legislation.



Dudley describes Engage Maine as a **“permanent coalition of organizations and civic leaders with a common vision of inclusive democracy that advances prosperity and security for all Maine people.”**

<http://youtu.be/pedJUe3X6zI>

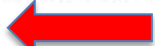
The Human Rights Campaign listed Engage Maine among the organizations collecting signatures for same-sex marriage.

## Marriage Equality in Maine Headed to the Ballot

Advocates for marriage equality in Maine today delivered more than 105,000 signatures to the Secretary of State of voters who want to see marriage equality back on the ballot this November. The number of signatures far exceeds the 57,277 required by state law.


The Citizens Initiative, "An Act to Allow Marriage Licenses for Same-Sex Couples and Protect Religious Freedom," comes as new polling shows that 54 percent of Maine residents support allow loving, committed same-sex couples to marry. Nationally, [polling](#) has shown that well over 50 percent of Americans support marriage equality.

The ballot question protects religious freedom by not requiring religious institutions or clergy to perform a ceremony they feel is in conflict with their beliefs.

[Learn more](#) about effortst to bring marriage equality to Maine. [Organizations participating in the coalition include](#) EqualityMaine, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, ACLU of Maine, Maine's Women Lobby, and [Engage Maine](#). 



**COALITION PARTNERS:**

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project  
Iris Network  
Justice Committee of the Sisters of  
Mercy in Maine  
Kennebec Behavioral Health  
Kennebec Valley Community Action  
Program  
 Kennebec Valley Organization  
LCLAA-Maine  
League of Young Voters  
LEAP, Inc.  
Legal Services for the Elderly  
Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health  
Center

<http://www.maineandobetter.org/what.html>



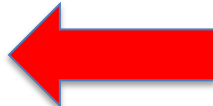
# MAINE CAN DO BETTER

Building Maine's future together.

The Maine Can Do Better coalition called cuts in family planning funding in the federal budget "dangerous and irresponsible."

PRESS RELEASE

Maine Can Do Better



CONTACT: Ben Dudley (207) 712-0891

<http://www.mainecandobetter.org/35.html>

[ben@engagemaine.org](mailto:ben@engagemaine.org)

May 10, 2012

## Irresponsible Budget Ignores Dangerous Impacts

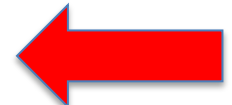
**AUGUSTA** – Maine Republicans in the Legislature today released scarce details of a budget that they have negotiated secretly with Gov. Paul LePage that makes devastating cuts to seniors, children and other vulnerable Mainers while continuing an irresponsible agenda of tax cuts that aren't paid for.

Despite bipartisan budgets throughout the last 18 months, Republicans today issued a stingingly partisan budget that cuts funding for Head Start, family planning and services for seniors and low-income Mainers.

"From what we know, this is a dangerous and irresponsible attack on Maine's vulnerable that is motivated by the desire for a talking point instead of sound public policy," said Ben Dudley, executive director of Engage Maine, convener of the Maine Can Do Better Coalition. "It appears that the authors of this budget are unconcerned with the impacts on seniors, children, women and low-income Mainers."

Additional details of their plan were not released before the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee gathered for votes on the cuts.

Maine Can Do Better and its coalition partners will release more information as it becomes available.





# MAINE CAN DO BETTER

Building Maine's future together.

The Maine Can Do Better coalition published a list of what it called “the most damaging and irresponsible initiatives,” which claims that eliminating funds for “family planning” harms children and families.

Prepared by Maine Equal Justice Partners, the following list provides some of the most damaging and irresponsible initiatives. (Please note that this is a preliminary analysis and numbers are subject to change.)

## Cuts that will harm low-income children and families:

- ❑ Eliminates funding (\$2.6 million) for the **Maine Families Home Visiting** Program, which will eliminate vital services for Maine's most vulnerable infants and children. Approximately 750 families will lose services focused on family substance abuse, domestic violence, prevention of abusive head trauma, and the health and safety of children;
- ❑ Eliminates funding (\$401,430) for family planning; and
- ❑ Eliminates \$300,000 for **dental services** for people with low incomes and no other source of dental help.

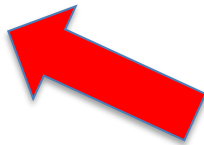
<http://www.maineandobetter.org/gmi.html>

## Statement from Benjamin Dudley on behalf of Maine Can Do Better in Response to Proposed Supplemental Budget Changes

March 9, 2010

"We're heartened by the Governor's proposed changes to the supplemental budget. They represent substantial restorations to programs vital to the public interest, such as funding for nursing homes, assisted living facilities, disability services, mental health crisis intervention and home-based services, k-12 and higher education, and municipal revenue sharing. Clearly Governor Baldacci heard the concerns of Maine citizens and we thank him for his efforts.

"Despite this progress, there's still major hole in the state budget: \$360 million. That's equivalent to annual state & federal funding for the Maine Departments of Agriculture, Conservation, Economic Development, Marine Resources, The Secretary of State, The Community College System, The Maine Human Rights Commission, and the state court system combined. To make up that sizable shortfall, this budget still proposes a host of harmful cuts:



- ☒ \$500 thousand in cuts for community support programs, including family planning, domestic violence, homeless services and child abuse prevention programs.

In 2010, the Maine Can Do Better coalition decried budget cuts to "family planning" in Maine's state budget, calling them "harmful."