

The Ezekiel Project

Since 2010, the Ezekiel Project has been the recipient of six grants from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) totaling \$255,000, including the most recent grant of \$45,000 from the CCHD's 2020-2021 grants cycle.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT 2020-2021 GRANTEES

Diocese	Grantee	Issue Area	Grant
Diocese of Saginaw	The Ezekiel Project	Education	45,000.00

The Ezekiel Project is guilty of directly promoting abortion, promoting a fundraiser for a mobile contraceptive supply van, promoting one of the most pro-abortion organizations in the country, and its leadership is actively involved in the promotion of abortion as well.

On <u>November 24, 2020</u>, Ezekiel Project shared a fundraiser post from the Black Women's Blueprint's "Sistas Van," a mobile contraception-supply van. In the post, the Black Women's Blueprint expressly states:

"We are proud as a survivor led-organization to have implemented programs that promote gender justice, racial healing, **reproductive health**, and reconciliation.

...

Activated in April of this year, **our volunteers have been able to safely distribute** menstrual products, **contraception**, and nearly 2,000 bags of groceries to women and girls in 45 locations across all five boroughs!"



Black Women's Blueprint

November 24, 2020 · 3

For 10 years, Black Women's Blueprint has mobilized for our community. We are proud as a <u>survivor led-organization to have implemented programs that promote</u> gender justice, racial healing, <u>reproductive health</u>, and reconciliation.

Our work is rooted in the belief that our collective survival depends on our collective action. That could not be more true today, with COVID-19, white supremacy, and economic disparity running rampant in our community, in what many are calling a "triple pandemic." These pandemics have shone a bright light on the structural inequalities facing Black women in particular, who are relied on for serving on the frontlines and at home. Coupled with stay-athome orders increasing cases of domestic violence, Black women and girls need our support more than ever as we transition into the winter months ahead.

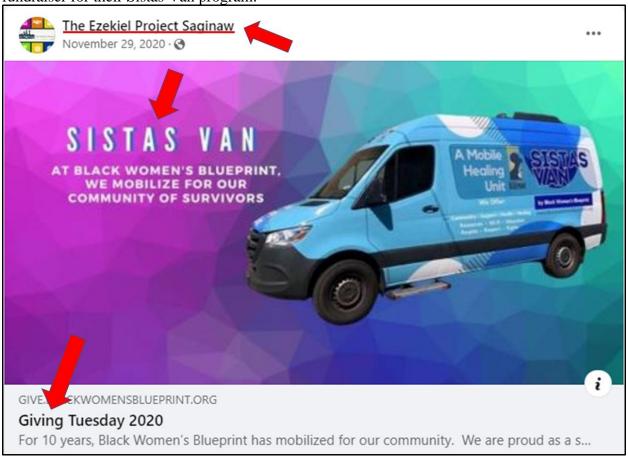
Help us close the gap in support across the spectrum of women's needs by investing in Black Women's Blueprint. Your gift allows us to continue providing sexual assault crisis counseling, grant pandemic-related emergency funds to survivors of gender-based violence and lead workshops that address issues including Black maternal mortality and racial healing, among other critical initiatives.

We are excited to announce that this Giving Tuesday, we've been issued a challenge. If we raise \$10,000 for Black Women's Blueprint by 11:59pm on December 1, we'll unlock an additional \$10,000 bonus grant for our Sistas Van program! Sistas Van is a trauma-informed, survivor-centered Mobile Healing Unit. Activated in April of this year, our volunteers have been able to safely distribute menstrual products, contraception, and nearly 2,000 bags of groceries to women and girls in 45 locations across all five boroughs!

All donations starting today will go towards our Giving Tuesday challenge! Support us today! https://give.blackwomensblueprint.org/.../giving.../c313899

#givingtuesday #brooklyngives #nyc #dayofgiving #covid19 #pandemic #pandemicresponse #reproductivehealth #blacklivesmatter #essentialworkers #blackwomen #donate #survivors #sistasvan Five days later, the Ezekiel Project directly posted a link to the Black Women's Blueprint's

fundraiser for their Sistas Van program.



On the <u>Black Women's Blueprint fundraising page</u> for the Sistas Van program, it specifically identifies which contraceptives they distribute: emergency contraception, condoms, pregnancy tests, Plan B.



Black Women's Blueprint

Survivors Allowing Land to Facilitate Healing

We are bringing reproductive health and maternal care to our community by mobilizing doulas, midwives and birthworkers on the Sistas Van. We are also bringing the following that are specific to reproductive healthcare needs: emergency contraception, condoms, pregnancy tests, Plan B, uterine and reproductive health supplies which are critical and unmet needs for TGNC/NB women and survivors of violence.

Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> to stay up to date on delivery routes and more GIVE <u>TODAY!</u>



In short, the Ezekiel Project knowingly engaged in the promotion of a fundraiser for a program that was distributing contraception, including abortifacients.

On <u>March 31, 2022</u>, the Ezekiel Project promoted one of the most active pro-abortion organizations in the country, The National Organization for Women (NOW).



The National Organization for Women is the largest organization of feminist grassroots activists in the United States. NOW has hundreds of chapters and hundreds of thousands of members and activists in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since our founding in 1966, NOW's purpose is to take action through intersectional grassroots activism to promote feminist ideals, lead societal change, eliminate discrimination, and achieve and protect the equal rights of all women and girls in all aspects of social, political, and economic life. In their education and advocacy efforts, the Foundation works to inform the general public, as well as policy-makers, about the need for equal treatment of women and for a constitutional guarantee of equal rights under the law. We do this in many ways, including public speaking, conferences, seminars, training programs and educational materials.

NOW Foundation also engages in voter empowerment programs designed to encourage women to register, vote, and stay politically active in their communities. #womenshistorymonth #womenempowerment #womensupportingwomen #womenempoweringwomen #wcw



Among the images the Ezekiel Project shared in celebration of NOW was one regarding abortion, showing that the Ezekiel Project was not ignorant of NOW's pro-abortion position. This photo is from a post. The Ezekiel Project Saginaw March 31 · 🚱 Like Share nment

On <u>July 1, 2022</u>, The Ezekiel Project posted an invitation for people to participate in a proabortion event, saying:

"Join us TODAY, JULY 1ST, for the Black Women's Roundtable 'Hands Off Our Bodies, Hands Off Our Votes'"

The mantra "hands off our bodies" is a direct reference to abortion, and the Ezekiel Project acknowledged this by describing "out" topic for the event:

"Our topic: "The Power of Black Women's Leadership & Vote in the 2022 Mid-Term Election and Fight for Our Voting Rights, Reproductive Rights, Freedoms & Justice!!""

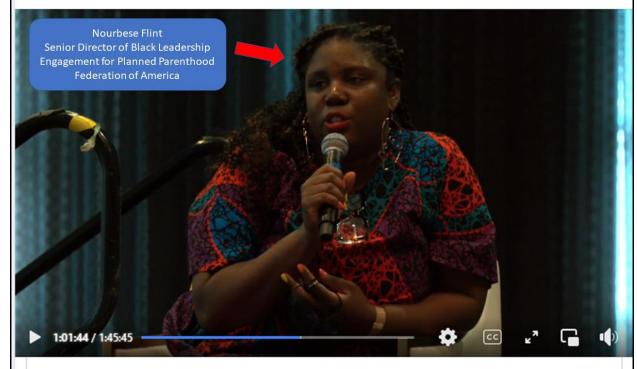
Noted in the printed flyer for the event are speakers representing Planned Parenthood and SisterSong (another radically pro-abortion organization). And before the CCHD gives another cock and bull story about how this post was put up by some low-level staffer or volunteer (like they did with One Community United), it is important to note that this post was "loved" by Willia Haynes, the president of the Erekiel President.



The entire Black Women's Roundtable event can be <u>viewed here</u>. It's an hour and 45 minutes long, and as indicated above, it includes representatives from radically pro-abortion organizations Planned Parenthood and SisterSong. But the entire thing is focused almost exclusively on women needing to secure the "right" to abortion through their votes.



We're live at Essence for the Black Women's Roundtable "<u>Hands Off Our Bodies, Hands Off Our Votes</u>" Power Table Talk!



The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation was live. July $1 \cdot \mathfrak{S}$

Join us for the Black Women's Roundtable "Hands Off Our Bodies, Hands Off Our Votes" Black Women Leaders Power Table Talk Series Lunch Panel @ Essence Festival Weekend!

Our topic: "The Power of Black Women's Leadership & Vote in the 2022 Mid-Term Election and Fight for Our Voting Rights, Reproductive Rights, Freedoms & Justice!!"

On <u>June 13, 2022</u>, Ezekiel Project posted a "save the date" on Instagram for a pro-abortion rally titled, "Womxn vs. Wade." The post written by the Ezekiel project was very carefully worded to avoid using explicit language, but the meaning is clear. By referring to "Womxn vs. Wade," while saying, "Mamas of color must be at the table when **life-changing policy decisions** are being made," and "You cannot **care about life** and also not advocate for ..." it is clear they are referring to abortion.

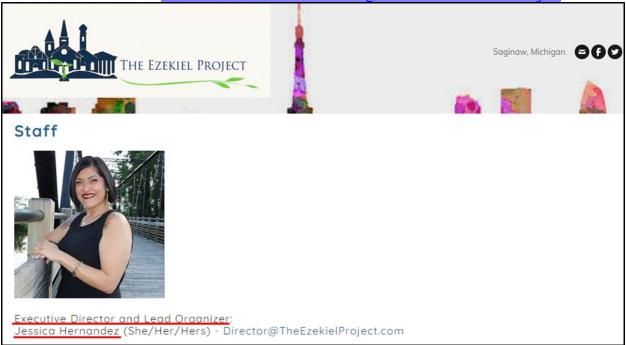


This pro-abortion meaning is further clarified by the "Womxn Vs. Wade" <u>march's toolkit</u>, which included graphic flyers for the event. One of the graphic flyers in the toolkit showed that <u>Nicole Wells Stallworth</u>, the executive director for Planned Parenthood advocates for Michigan, was one of the speakers at the event.

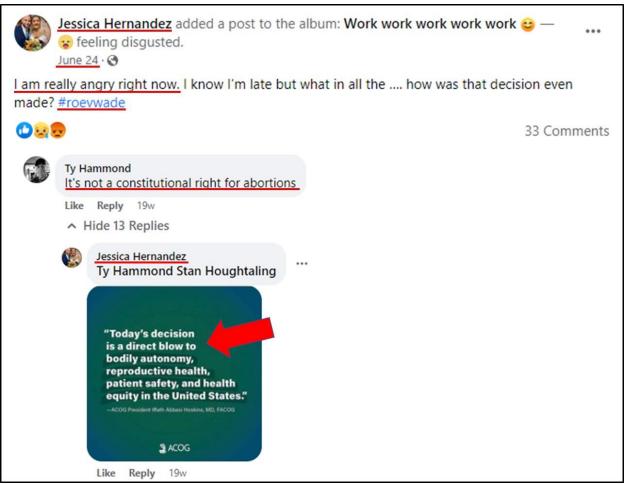


In addition to the Ezekiel Project conducting a fundraiser on behalf of a contraception-distributing program, promoting the pro-abortion National Organization for Women, inviting people to attend the pro-abortion rally "Hands off Our Bodies, and promoting the pro-abortion Womxn Vs. Wade" march, the executive director of the Ezekiel Project and at least one board member are radically pro-abortion.

Jessica Hernandez is the Executive Director and Lead Organizer for the Ezekiel Project.



On <u>June 24</u>, the day Roe v. Wade was overturned, Hernandez posted that she was "angry" at what the Supreme Court had done. And when challenged with the comment that "it is not a constitutional right for abortions," Hernandez responded by posting a meme from ACOG saying, "Today's decision is a direct blow to bodily autonomy, reproductive health, patient safety, and health equity in the United States."



The next day, she posted a picture of a woman in her underwear with a t-shirt on that says, "This uterus has a body with a brain, that can make its own decisions." Hernandez said that purchasing the shirt gave her joy as it expresses "one of my sentiments on my chest."



In <u>this post from the Ezekiel Project</u>, Nyesh LaToy is identified as a board member and the post links to her facebook page.



In May of 2019, LaToy proposed a "sex strike" for states in which abortion is prohibited.

Nyesha LaToy



What if women from abortion banned states got together for a sex strike?

On November 5, 2022, LaToy claimed that Michigan's Proposal 3 was not about killing babies, but was about the "medical health of women."



Proposal 3 has Nothing to do with / babies but has Everything to do with the medical HEALTH of women!

VOTE YES ON 3

However, <u>Michigan's Prop 3</u> explicitly states that it would "amend the state constitution to establish new individual right to reproductive freedom, including right to make all decisions about pregnancy and abortion," while prohibiting prosecution of anyone involved in the procurement or completion of an abortion.

Proposal 22-3

A proposal to amend the state constitution to establish new individual right to reproductive freedom, including right to make all decisions about pregnancy and abortion; allow state to regulate abortion in some cases; and forbid prosecution of individuals exercising established right

This proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Establish new individual right to reproductive freedom, including right to make and carry out all decisions about pregnancy, such as prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, contraception, sterilization, abortion, miscarriage management, and infertility;
- Allow state to regulate abortion after fetal viability, but not prohibit if medically needed to protect a patient's life or physical or mental health;
- Forbid state discrimination in enforcement of this right; <u>prohibit prosecution of an</u> individual, or a person helping a pregnant individual, <u>for exercising rights established</u> by this amendment;
- · Invalidate state laws conflicting with this amendment.

Should this proposal be adopted?

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Before offering a conclusion on the Ezekiel Project, it is worth noting that Bishop Robert Gruss and a number of Catholic Parishes are <u>identified by the Ezekiel Project</u> as "Member Catholic

Parishes and Religious Leaders."





Vicariate III Member Catholic Parishes and Religious Leaders

- Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption, Pastor: Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss, Rector: Rev. William Rutkowski
- · Christ the Good Shepherd Catholic Parish Fr. Ron Wagner
- · Holy Family Parish, Deacon Roger Pasionek
- · Holy Spirit Parish, Fr. Peter Gaspeny
- · St. Agnes Parish, Fr. Andy LaFramboise
- · St. Dominic Parish, Fr. Steve Gavit
- · St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Fr. Gerald Pehler, OFM Cap
- St. Frances de Sales Parish, Fr. John Mancini, OSFS
- · St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Fr. Richard Bokinskie
- · St. John Paul II Parish, Fr. Ron Wagner
- St. John Vianney, Sr. Janet Pewoski, CSJ
- St. Joseph Parish, Fr. Frank Voris, OFM Cap.
- · St. John XXIII Parish, Fr. Michael Steltenkamp, S. J.



Conclusion

The Ezekiel Project has clearly been shown to engage in various activities in direct conflict with Catholic moral teaching. It promoted a fundraiser identified as a contraception-distribution program. It promoted one of the most notoriously pro-abortion organizations in the United States: The National Organization for Women. It Promoted several pro-abortion events. And it's leadership have declared their allegiance with the Culture of Death. There can be no mistaking the pro-abortion tenor and efforts of the organization, placing it in clear violation of CCHD grant guidelines.