



United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts

United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts

United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts (UIASM) has received \$155,000 from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) since 2018, including its [2020-2021 grant of \\$55,000](#).

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT 2020-2021 GRANTEES			
Diocese	Grantee	Issue Area	Grant
Diocese of Fall River	United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts	Education	55,000.00

The CCHD absolutely forbids organizations from membership in organizations acting against Catholic teaching. In an [FAQ on the USCCB website](#), the CCHD directly answers the question about whether grantees may be members of coalitions that oppose Catholic teachings. In answer, the CCHD firmly stated, "CCHD will not fund groups that are knowingly members of coalitions that have as part of their organizational purpose or coalition agenda, positions or actions that contradict fundamental Catholic moral and social teaching."

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 that 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 the use of the death penalty punitive measures toward immigrants, etc.). Prohibited activities include participation in or endorsing actions that promote legislation, and ballot initiatives (including voter guides and other written materials) that contradict Catholic moral or social teaching.

Despite this requirement, however UIASM is an affiliate of the radically pro-abortion Faith in Action, as [can be seen here](#).

Faith in Action Federations:

- ▶ Alabama
- ▶ Arizona
- ▶ California
- ▶ Colorado
- ▶ Florida
- ▶ Indiana
- ▶ Louisiana
- ▶ Massachusetts
- ▶ BROCKTON INTERFAITH COMMUNITY, BROCKTON
- ▶ UNITED INTERFAITH ACTION OF SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS, FALL RIVER
- ▶ New Mexico
- ▶ New York
- ▶ Ohio
- ▶ Pennsylvania
- ▶ Texas
- ▶ Vermont

Faith in Action is a coalition of 49 members, many of whom receive funding from the CCHD. Faith in Action itself [received \\$500,000 in 2016 from the CCHD](#), when it was called the PICO Network. However, Faith in Action publicly supports abortion, its leaders openly slammed the overturn of Roe v. Wade, and FIA participated in electioneering activities [in support of President Joe Biden](#) and other Democratic candidates. The organization also supports LGBTQ+ ideologies. All of the pertinent information regarding Faith in Action on the whole is contained in the fully detailed report on FIA ([see here](#)), but the most important point is this:

On the day of the Supreme Court’s ruling on the Dobbs v. Jackson case which overturned Roe v. Wade, Faith in Action took a formal position condemning the ruling, while vowing to “stand with women” calling it “oppression” to deny a woman the right to murder her child through abortion.

In an [official press release](#), published on Faith in Action’s website, Faith in Action said:

“Clergy and organizers with **Faith in Action**, the largest grassroots, faith-based organizing network in the United States, are **speaking out against today’s Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade**, following a leak of the Supreme Court opinion.”

FIA’s executive director Rev. Alvin Herring called the decision, “a huge blow to women in this season of despair,” and declared that “[w]e must speak out against dangerous policies that chip away at **having agency over their own bodies.**”

Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould, FIA's Senior Strategist at FIA's Washington, DC office, claimed that the "SCOTUS decision to overturn ROE" was "legalized, judicially enforced oppression" that "shows contempt for the Creator."

Rev. Kamilah Hall Sharp, member of FIA's Organizing Clergy Board, said that the decision to overturn Roe v. Wade was "deadly," and that she was "enraged at the injustice, the lack of care for women and that most people who voted to **take this right away will never have to carry an unwanted pregnancy** to term in their bodies." She then had the audacity to claim that "As a follower of Jesus," her rage about the overturning of Roe "aligns with [H]is."

This is the entire statement as it appeared on the Faith in Action website:

News & Media

FAITH LEADERS STAND WITH WOMEN AFTER SCOTUS DECISION, DEMAND EXPANDED ACCESS TO MATERNAL HEALTH CARE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 24, 2022

CONTACT: Heather Cabral | hcabral@faithinaction.org | 202-550-6680

Manisha Sunil | msunil@westendstrategy.com | 202-417-0171

WASHINGTON—Clergy and organizers with [Faith in Action](#), the largest grassroots, faith-based organizing network in the United States, are speaking out against today's Supreme Court decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, following a leak of the Supreme Court opinion.

"This is a huge blow to women in this season of despair. As people of faith, we are called on to join with women who are afraid today. We must speak out against dangerous policies that chip away at having agency over their own bodies," said **The Rev. Alvin Herring, executive director of Faith in Action.** "This country pretends to be a nation that cares about the wellbeing of women when millions of women are without health insurance and access to maternal health care. It is also no secret who will be most affected: poor Black and Brown women. Our collective liberation relies on all of us having the tools to live our fullest lives and make decisions grounded in our own values and beliefs. As faith leaders, it is not our place to judge others for their circumstances – rather, it is our job to stand against policies that make the lives of women more difficult."

This decision comes in the midst of women across the United States are struggling to find formula to feed their babies and the irony is not lost on these leaders. The U.S. also has the highest maternal mortality rate of any developed nation and its currently the highest it has been in decades.

"The U.S. from its origin has been a tale of two countries, the privileged and the underprivileged. We are also a country that often operates under the veneer of a fraudulent connection to religion. Proverbs 14:31 reminds us that, 'Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.' The SCOTUS decision to overturn ROE not only puts those who inequities have caused to be perpetually, underprivileged such as poor women, Black women and other women of Color at risk but it also inherently shows contempt for the Creator," said **Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould, Senior Strategist, Faith Leadership Strategies, Faith in Action and Associate at Metropolitan A.M.E. Church in DC.** "It is a moment in which people of faith have to wrestle with theologies that support oppression of any kind. It is a sad day for us but we have been here before and will continue to advocate for, stand with and protect the well being of those who continue to be saddled with legalized, judicially enforced oppression."

"Today is a difficult day for women and children in this country because of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. People are hurt, scared, and frankly, enraged," said **The Rev. Kamillah Hall Sharp, Co-Pastor, The Gathering, A Womanist Church in Dallas and Clergy Organizing Board, Faith in Action.** "Here in Texas, we have one of the country's highest Black mother mortality rates, no Medicaid expansion, and child care is hard to get even for people with the money. This decision is deadly. I, too, am enraged at the injustice, the lack of care for women and that most people who voted to take this right away will never have to carry an unwanted pregnancy to term in their bodies. As a follower of Jesus, I believe my rage aligns with his. Jesus was so enraged by injustice and the oppression of the people he flipped tables. We must harness our rage and organize and flip seats in state and federal legislatures so that evil does not get the final word."

###

Faith in Action is the largest grassroots, faith-based organizing network in the United States. The nonpartisan organization works with 1,000 religious congregations in more than 200 cities and towns through its 46 local and state federations. For more information, visit www.faithinaction.org.

Conclusion

United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts is a member of a radically pro-abortion organization in direct violation of CCHD grant guidelines, and is therefore ineligible for CCHD funds.