

# Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition (NWBCCC)

<http://www.northwestbronx.org/>

**CCHD Grant: \$25,000**

## The Problem:

- NWBCCC runs a youth program called Sistas and Brothas United whose web presence shows support for homosexuality and Marxism.
- NWBCCC is an affiliate of National People's Action.
  - NPA signed a letter to Congress and President Obama urging them to “stand against any effort to defund Planned Parenthood.”
- Its president is publicly in support of homosexual rights.

## The Response:

After contacting the local diocese with initial findings in July, American Life League received a letter dated 31 July 2012. In the letter, Monsignor Kevil Sullivan said:

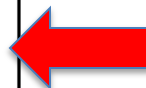
“After the most recent review of their CCHD grant request, prior to your letter, the NWBCC was *not* recommended for funding, and will *not* be receiving money from the *Catholic Campaign for Human Development*.”

American Life League has taken this to mean that NWBCCC did receive its full grant for the 2011-2012 grant cycle, but as the new grant request for the 2012-2013 grant cycle was being reviewed, the Archdiocese of New York denied the application and has barred it from future funding.

## 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\New York\New York	Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition, Inc.	Community Development HOUSING	\$25,000.00
AREA A\New York\New York	Mirabal Sisters Cultural and Community Center, Inc.	Community Development HOUSING	\$30,000.00
AREA A\New York\New York	Chinese Staff and Workers Association	Community Development ECONOMIC JUSTICE	\$35,000.00



The following information on the leadership of NWBCCC is included in this report because in January of 2012, Bishop Jamie Soto, Chairman of the CCHD, defunded an organization called Francis House as a direct result of its executive director's support for abortion and same-sex "marriage." Even though the executive director claimed that she never gave support for these things in her capacity as the leader of Francis House, Bishop Soto saw fit to defund the organization anyway. This slide contains the pertinent aspects of the story.

THE SACRAMENTO BEE

## Sacramento Catholic Diocese drops funds over nonprofit director's views



The Catholic Diocese of Sacramento no longer will fund programs at Francis House, a nonprofit agency that serves homeless people, because of its new director's views supporting abortion rights and gay marriage.

In a letter last month, the diocese's director of social services said the Rev. Faith Whitmore's public statements on the issues clash with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Therefore, said the Rev. Michael Kiernan, the social services director, it is "impossible for the diocese to continue funding Francis House" as part of its annual Catholic Appeal.

Within her own denomination, she has been a strong advocate of same-sex marriage. In 2008, during a short period in which gay marriage was legal in California, Whitmore openly defied church law by marrying same-sex couples. She has said publicly that she supports a woman's right to obtain an abortion.

"I have never represented any of those positions on behalf of Francis House," said Whitmore, formerly the senior pastor at St. Mark's United Methodist Church. "I was speaking as an individual. So for me, this came out of the blue."

Bishop Jaime Soto approved of the decision to stop funding Francis House, said Eckery.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/03/08/4320550/sacramento-catholic-diocese-drops.html#storylink=cpy>



# THE NORTHWEST BRONX COMMUNITY AND CLERGY COALITION

*La Coalición de la Comunidad y del Clero del Noroeste del Bronx*

Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter is the  
president of NWBCCC.

**Mission**

**History**

**Accomplishments**

**Northwest Bronx Community**

**Staff**

**Board**

**Annual Report**

**Supporters**

**Leadership Council**

## our organization

### BOARD

Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter (President)

Isabel Malayet (Vice President)

Yashira Cividanes (Secretary)

Fr. Joseph Girone (Board Member)

Joan Apellaniz (Board Member)

Heidi Hynes (Board Member)

Sandra Lobo-Jost (Board Member)

Edwin Pierce (Board Member)



<http://www.northwestbronx.org/board.html>



April 16, 2010, 3:11 PM

## Community Advocate to Challenge Espada

By SAM DOLNICK

In 2010, Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter ran for state senate.

State Senator [Pedro Espada Jr.](#), the Bronx politician who staged a coup last summer and seized the Democratic majority leader's seat in Albany, will have some challengers of his own to fend off.

Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter, a community advocate in the northwestern Bronx who has never before run for office, plans to announce on Saturday that she will challenge Mr. Espada for his seat representing that area.

Ms. Pilgrim-Hunter, 53, played a prominent role in killing the city's plan to build a shopping mall inside the Kingsbridge Armory, a fortress that has sat empty for years. Ms. Pilgrim-Hunter helped



Courtesy Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter's campaign office


Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter, a community advocate in the northwestern Bronx, has never before run for office,

For a  
Fresh  
Start

# DESIREE PILGRIM-HUNTER


Democrat for State Senate

During her campaign, Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter declared her commitment to openly-practiced homosexuality.




## Greetings!

This week Desiree Pilgrim-Hunter received the endorsement of the **Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club**, a progressive political organization named after the legendary gay activist Jim Owles, dedicated to equality and freedom for all LGBTQ people.



*"I am deeply honored to receive the support of the Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club,"*  
**said Pilgrim-Hunter.**

*"Jim Owles was one of the bravest political activists New York has ever known. He was a founding President of one of this city's pioneering civil rights groups, the Gay Activist Alliance of New York, and the first openly gay person to run for public office in New York City. His name will forever be linked with fierce opposition to bigotry and discrimination, in all forms, and his legacy continues to inspire new generations of activists to fight for full fairness and equality for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters. I am proud to count myself among those who not only share this vision but are absolutely committed to fighting for it."*



NWBCCC runs a youth program called Sistas and Brothas United, which is organized by Shaun Lin.

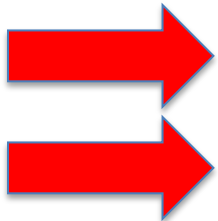


## THE NORTHWEST BRONX COMMUNITY AND CLERGY COALITION

*La Coalición de la Comunidad y del Clero del Noroeste del Bronx*

## our organization

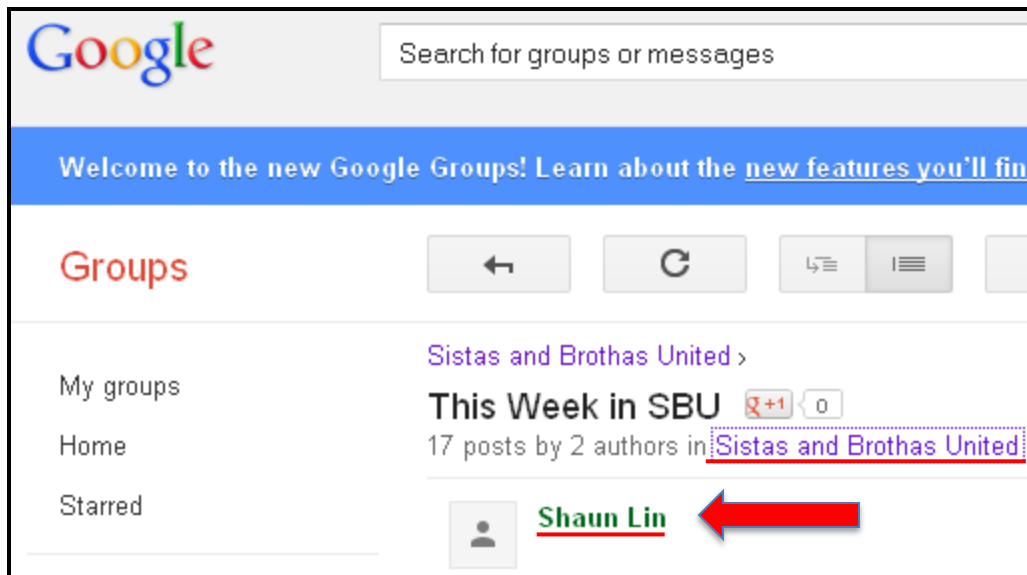
### STAFF



#### **SISTAS AND BROTHAS UNITED YOUTH DIVISION**

Shaun Lin (Youth Organizer)  
[shaun@northwestbronx.org](mailto:shaun@northwestbronx.org)  
718-584-0515 x244

<http://www.northwestbronx.org/staff.html>



The Sistas and Brothas Google Group, which is run by Shaun Lin, consists of e-mails sent out to its members. These emails give full support for homosexuality and Marxism.



**Shaun Lin**

October 18-24 edition:

Things to check for:

- \* We're bringing back "Hip Hop and Politics" in the next couple weeks. Get at me if you're interested in leading a discussion
- \* Peoples' Justice will be coming through next week for a "Know Your Rights" training with police and to discuss cop watch with SBU. If you have specific things you want them to cover (student rights, LGBTQ rights, immigrant rights), let me know sometime this week.



**Shaun Lin**

Nov. 29 - Dec. 1 edition:

### Weekly Links

Race, Gender & Society

Video: Queer Youth Speak Out - Reteaching Gender and Sexuality

<http://vimeo.com/17101589>

<https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!topic/sistasandbrothasunited/0Wq6rsPDcP8>





Shaun Lin

Dec. 20-26th edition:

## In The News

A couple huge things happened this week. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was repealed by congress. The DREAM act was not. The largest prison strike in US history went down in Georgia.

National:

Senate Repeals DADT

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/12/19/us/politics/19cong.html?hp>

Marxism:

The Communist Manifesto Read Allowed (Aloud) (by some British dude)

\* too bad communists can't spell, lol

<http://capitalismisover.com/the-communist-manifesto-read-allowed/>

Sistas and Brothas United >

## This Week in Revolution (oops i mean SBU), as told by Chairman Meow

3 posts by 1 author in [Sistas and Brothas United](#)



Shaun Lin

Peace peace SBU folks-

The past few months of organizing have led us up to this point. Our moment is finally here. Revolution is happening all over the world (more on that in this week's link). Its our duty to bring the struggle to New York City. Without further ado, this week in SBU.,

Around the world:

I hope you're paying attention to what's happening in the Arab world right now. what started in Tunisia as a protest movement against rising food prices and unemployment has led to a mass movement to overthrow the government in Tunisia, Yemen, Algeria and Egypt. This is like nothing we've seen since 1989 and the fall of the Communist bloc in Eastern Europe. i'm incredibly inspired by the power of the people and the struggle against government corruption.

Quotes to inspire:


"Fuck shit up!" - Shaun, your loving organizer

This email comes from the link on the previous page. In this e-mail, Lin calls the repeal of Don't Ask Don't Tell "huge," and promotes an audio version of the Communist Manifesto

Calling himself "Chairman Meow," Lin expressed excitement over the revolutions taking place in the Middle East, calling for the same style of revolution in New York.

<https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!topic/sistasandbrothasunited/XB40li97mPA>

Shaun Lin represented the NWBCCC at the Marxist Left Forum.

Login | Create Account

HOMEABOUT▼CONFERENCE 2012▼PARTICIPATE▼MEDIA & EVENTS▼SUPPORT▼MY ACCOUNT

**Speaker: Shaun Lin** 

[View Full Schedule](#) [View All Panels](#)

Panel Info

**Panel Title:** [Grass Roots Organizing in the Bronx, USA](#)

Participant Info

**Type:** Speaker

**First Name:** Shaun

**Last Name:** Lin

**Affiliation:** [North West Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition](#) 

**Bio:** Shaun Lin is a youth organizer with Sistas and Brothas United (SBU) where he works on student safety, college readiness, food justice, and police accountability. A firm believer in the potential of young people to create and transform their communities, Shaun is committed to developing leadership and deepening political analysis with Bronx youth. A self-professed hip hop nerd and student of radical politics, Shaun is likely to be found with either a book in hand or headphones on.

<http://www.leftforum.org/participant/speaker-shaun-lin>

The Left Forum is a purely Socialist event, created by Marxists with the intent of “cross-fertilizing” progressive movements for a “stronger left.”

## History: From the Socialist Scholars to the Left Forum

Left Forum developed out of the Socialist Scholars Conference (SSC). The first SSC in 1981 was actually the re-founding by Bogdan Denitch, Stanley Aronowitz and others of the 1960s Socialist Scholars Conference. The earlier conference was a broad effort by new left academics to create a forum in which to present theoretical and historical work, for the most part in a scholarly format but with an audience reaching far beyond academic circles.

Practically every major socialist thinker appeared at one time or another at the SSC, and many international unionists and political officials. By 2000, after

The keynote speaker for the 2010 conference was Rev. Jesse Jackson. The final plenary featured Noam Chomsky, and included a tribute to Howard Zinn from Arundhati Roy and Frances Fox Piven, along with a performance of Zinn's play "Marx in Soho." The Zinn tribute and Chomsky's appearance drew the expected enormous crowds, with people lining up around the block.

<http://www.leftforum.org/about/history>

## about us

Left Forum provides a context for the critical dialogue that is essential for a stronger Left and a more just society.

Each spring Left Forum convenes the largest gathering in North America of the US and international Left. Continuing a tradition begun in the 1960s, we bring together intellectuals and organizers to share perspectives, strategies, experience and vision. For the US and the world, revitalizing an American Left has never been more urgent; Left Forum has a critical role to play in that undertaking.

Our work parallels and cross-fertilizes with the renewal of left, progressive, radical and social movement strength elsewhere—from indigenous movements in Bolivia to the South Korean farmers to the electoral gains of European and Latin American left parties. Like many movements abroad, Left Forum seeks to link the critique of neo-liberalism to anti-capitalism, and to foster radical alternatives to the established order. Left Forum provides a context for critical engagement by

<http://www.leftforum.org/about>

## Note:

**Marx in Soho**, written in 1999 by Howard Zinn, is a one-man play on the life of Karl Marx. Zinn stated that he wrote to play to "show Marx as few people knew him, as a family man, struggling to support his wife and children."

## SPEAKER BIOS

The Left Forum presented a platform for a host of speakers supporting abortion, homosexuality, and Marxism.

**\*The following list is NOT exhaustive.**

**Robb Burlage** is with the Five Borough Institute; HealthPacOnline

**Jasmine Burnett** is an activist and consultant on sexual health, reproductive justice and LGBT issues. She organizes a Reproductive Justice group, SisterSong NYC, and is a founder of Trust Black Women, an intergenerational partnership working to ensure that Black women have the human right to make our own decisions about our reproductive lives. Her blog, Aunt Betty's Basement, focuses on a woman being a self-advocate for her Knowledge of Self, Pleasure of Self, Knowledge of Health and Pleasure of Others.

**Dorothy Geller** has a Ph.D. from George Washington University. Working as a Drawing on Sylvia Federici, she has argued that women's reproductive power is the first and most basic form of labor harnessed in the early stages of capitalism. She intends to examine how the emergence of creative production that has the potential to create solidarity is shot through with antagonism and enmity, and how women remain the locus of these oppositions in the current stage of information capitalism. She is currently at the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Montreal, and is a freelance artist.

**Rosalind Petchesky**, Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Hunter College and GC/CUNY, received a MacArthur Fellowship. Her books include Abortion and Woman's Choice (1990), Negotiating Reproductive Rights (1998), Global Prescriptions: Gendering Health and Human Rights (2003), and Sexuality, Health and Human Rights (with Sonia Corrêa and Richard Parker, 2008). She has engaged in many transnational social movement campaigns, UN mtgs and World Social Forums.

***"Jasmine Burnett is an activist and consultant on sexual health, reproductive justice and LGBT issues."***

***"Dorothy Geller ... has argued that women's reproductive power is the first most basic form of labor harnessed in the early stages of capitalism."***

***"Rosalins Petchesky's ... books include 'Abortion and Women's Choice' (1990), 'Negotiating Reproductive Rights' (1998) ... 'Sexuality, Health and Human Rights'"***

## SPEAKER BIOS

**Dana Schonberg** is a graduate of SUNY/Buffalo and the Family Medicine Residency at Montefiore Medical Center. She is currently a Reproductive Health Fellow at Montefiore. Her areas of expertise include efforts to ensure access to contraception and abortion services in primary care

*"Dana Schonberg ... is currently a Reproductive Health Fellow at Montefiore. Her areas of expertise include efforts to ensure access to contraception and abortion services in primary care."*

**Amber Lynne Hollibaugh** is Executive Director of Queers for Economic Justice, a former senior strategist with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Hollibaugh's movement politics date back to Freedom Summer in 1964 and she's been a fulltime movement activist--whether New Left, feminist, or queer--ever since. She was the founding director of the Lesbian AIDS Project at the Gay Men's Health Crisis, and produced an award-winning documentary on women living with AIDS, Heart of the Matter (1994).

*"Amber Lynne Hollibaugh is Executive Director of Queers for Economic Justice, a former senior strategist with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force."*

**David McReynolds**, a lifelong staff member and activist in the War Resisters League, was the first openly gay man to run for president of the United States, on the Socialist Party ticket in 1980. McReynolds was a longtime opponent of the Vietnam War and among the first activists to publicly burn a draft card after this became a felony.

*"David McReynolds ... was the first openly gay man to run for president of the United States on the Socialist Party ticket in 1980."*

**Zahara Raine** is the National Community Educator for Lambda Legal, the oldest and largest national legal organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and people with HIV. Raine develops training, education proposals and curricula used by Lambda Legal staff, organizational partners, and the general public. Raine also oversees Lambda Legal's visibility throughout the country at conferences and public engagements.

*"Zahara Raine is the National Community Educator for Lambda Legal ... committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people"*



## SPEAKER BIOS

**Michael Strom** is a member of with Without Walls Educators Collective and teaches at the Hudson School in Hoboken, NJ. He is a student at Fordham University in the Bronx, NY. Inspired by the energy of the Bronx, mentors the Gay-Straight Alliance at a Bronx high school. Michael is interested in LGBTQ identity and resistance, liberating sexuality, feminism, and critical pedagogy and education. He is member of OFS.

*“Michael Storm ... inspired by the energy of the Bronx, mentors the Gay-Straight Alliance at a Bronx high school. Michael is interested in LGBTQ identity and resistance, liberating sexuality, feminism, and critical pedagogy and education.”*

**Monica Adams** is a Black-gay-working class-gender-non-conforming womyn, a community organizer, a scientist, and an activist scholar who brings a critical perspective to the fight in Madison, WI. Her work is based on centering the leadership of those most affected, specifically the Black community, Southeast Asian community, Queer People of Color community and other low-income communities of color. Her work strives to build an alternative society as the means to end our oppressions, instead of reforming the current system.

*“Monica Adams is a Black-gay-working class-gender-non-conforming womyn”*

**Martin Duberman** is the Founder of Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at CUNY Graduate School. An award-winning historian, playwright and gay-rights activist, Duberman is the author of the new dual biography, *A Saving Remnant: The Radical Lives of Barbara Deming and David McReynolds*.

*“Martin Duberman is the founder of Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at CUNY Graduate School.”*

**Ariane Fischer** is an Assistant Professor in the Intellectual Heritage program, received Ph.D. in 2009 at George Washington University, in Human Sciences. Teaching and research Marxist-feminist theory. She is originally from Germany.

*“Ariane Fischer is an Assistant Professor ... teaching and research Marxist-feminist theory.”*

## SPEAKER BIOS

**Harrison Fluss** is a PhD candidate in philosophy currently working on the thought of the French and Russian revolutions, German Idealism (especially Hegel), and Marxist philosophy, with a particular emphasis on Western Marxism, Russian and Soviet philosophy, Freudo-Marxism, and so-called post-Marxism (Laclau, Badiou, and Zizek). She has interests also in conservative thinkers Carl Schmitt and Leo Strauss. Publications: review of Gillian Rose's Hegel Contra Sociology, Journal of Critical Sociology.

**Carlos Frade** teaches Sociology at the University of Salford (Manchester, U.K.). His primary focus is on social and political philosophy, particularly Marxian and Weberian approaches to the sociological imagination through close readings of Machiavelli, Rousseau and Badiou. His recent publications include "The Human Significance of the Cuts in the U.K."

**Rusty Gilbert** is a long time revolutionary socialist/labor activist. He organizes classes in Social History/Theory at the Brecht Forum/New York Marxist School. He will talk about some of the interventions by the New York City left in recent working class struggles and the potentials and limitations of workers' centers and minority union organizing.

**Tim Hall's** main areas of interest are Marxism and Frankfurt School critical theory. His publications include The Modern State: theories and ideologies (Edinburgh 2007) with Erika Cudworth and John McGovern and Georg Lukács: The Fundamental Dissonance of Existence (Continuum 2011) with Timothy Bewes. He has interests in state theory and international ethics and is currently researching Marxist state theory and Cosmopolitan political theory.

*"Harrison Fluss is a PhD candidate in philosophy currently working on ... Marxist philosophy, with a particular emphasis on Western Marxism, Russian and Soviet philosophy, Freudo-Marxism, and so-called post-Marxism."*

*"Carlos Frade teaches sociology at the University of Salford. His primary focus is on social and political philosophy, particularly Marxian and Weberian approaches"*

*"Rusty Gilbert ... organizes classes in Social History/Theory at the Brecht Forum/New York Marxist School."*

*"Tim Hall's main areas of interest are Marxism ... He has interests in state theory and international ethics and is currently researching Marxist state theory"*

## SPEAKER BIOS

**David Harvey** is a Distinguished Professor of Anthropology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY) and author of *Limits to Capital*, *Cosmopolitanism and the Geographies of Freedom*, and most recently, *The Enigma of Capital and the Crises of Capitalism* (Oxford University Press). He has been teaching Marx's Capital for nearly 40 years.

*"David Harvey ... has been teaching Marx's Capital for nearly 40 years."*

**Stephen Healy** is an Assistant professor of Geography in the Physical and Earth Sciences Department, Worcester State University. He is on the editorial board of Rethinking Marxism and is an active founding member of the Community Economies Collective ([communityeconomies.org](http://communityeconomies.org)). Currently he is working on a book project with colleagues Katherine Gibson and Jenny Cameron entitled *Take Back the Economy, Any Time, Any Place*.

*"Stephen Healy ... is on the editorial board of Rethinking Marxism"*

**Charles Herr** is a clinical psychologist and Director of Psychological Services at Gouverneur Hospital. He has a lifelong interest in the work of Erich Fromm especially Fromm's project of integrating and amplifying the insights of Marx and Freud. He has a certificate in psychoanalysis from the William Alanson White Institute, co-founded by Fromm and Harry Stack Sullivan. He was a participant in the Free Speech Movement in Berkeley in 1964. He is a member of the Socialist Party, USA.

*"Charles Herr ... has a lifelong interest in the work of Erich Fromm especially from Fromm's project of integrating and amplifying the insights of Marx and Freud ... He is a member of the Socialist Party, USA."*

**Gary Hicks** is a long-time China observer and peace and justice activist from Berkeley, CA. After over four decades of struggle against war, apartheid, for tenants' rights and power, he is currently a Research Fellow at the Niebyl-Proctor Marxist Library, a working class library and community center, in Oakland CA.

*"Gary Hicks ... is currently a Research Fellow at the Niebyl-Proctor Marxist Library."*



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.

NWBCCC signed “on board” with VoteHealthcare.org.



**Half of all personal bankruptcies are caused by illness or medical debt.**

**Our Mission: Quality, Affordable Healthcare for All U.S. Residents.**

**Get on Board!**

**Pledge to Vote Healthcare!**

**Home**

**Obamacare + You Blog**

**Who's on Board?**

**Get Educated**

**Donate**

**Volunteer**

**Who's On Board?**

**We're on Board!**



**Today's Featured Voters**

Fill in any or all of the fields to begin your search.

First Name:

Last Name:

Partner/Organization:

City:

State:

Mountain Justice Summer  
MWRO  
N/A  
Nashville Homeless Power Project  
Nationwide Children's  
NCAE  
New School  
NOW  
**NWBCCC**  
Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans  
One Common Unity  
Org. for Black Struggle  
Organize! Ohio

**Related**

[About VoteHealthcare.org](#)

[Our Privacy Policy](#)

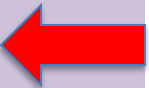
<http://www.votehealthcare.org/whos-on-board.aspx>



VoteHealthcare.org praised contraceptive coverage under the Affordable Care Act, calling family planning services “critical.”



## Women's Preventive Care Gets A Big Boost



Did you know that under the Affordable Care Act, women's preventive health care services – such as mammograms, screenings for cervical cancer, and other services – will be covered 100% with NO co-pays or deductibles? Although women on Medicare and many who have insurance through are already enjoying these benefits, all insurance plans will be required to provide preventive health services without co-pays or deductibles starting August 1, 2012.

The women's preventive health services required under the Act are:

- **Well-woman visits:** An annual well-woman preventive care visit and additional visits if necessary. Preven
- **Contraception and contraceptive counseling:** All FDA-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures, and patient education and counseling, but not the morning after pill. Family planning services are critical to ensuring intended pregnancies, and their use results in improved maternal health and better birth outcomes. \*\*\*Please note that churches and other religious organizations may choose whether to cover contraception. The rules governing the religious exception are not final. Click here for more information.



# **NATIONAL PEOPLE'S ACTION**

NWBCCC is an affiliate of  
National People's Action.

## **NPA Affiliates**

National People's Action has over 200 organizers working to unite everyday people in cities, towns, and rural communities throughout the United States through direct-action, house meetings and community organizing.

### **New York**

#### **Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition (NWBCCC)**

103 East 196th Street

Bronx, NY 10468

718.584.0515

[www.northwestbronx.org](http://www.northwestbronx.org)

<http://npa-us.org/npa-network>

**NPAN** signed this letter to Congress and President Obama urging them to ***“stand against any effort to defund Planned Parenthood.”***

Subject:

**Opposition to HR3, attacks on Planned Parenthood and Jobs, Jobs, Jobs**

To:

President Barack Obama

Sen. John Kerry

Sen. Scott Brown

Rep. Stephen Lynch

February 5, 2011

1. Please advise on your support and/or opposition to aspects of the HR3 as it stands now.

2. Please advise on your support and/or opposition to defund Planned Parenthood.

3. Please advise on your support and/or opposition to pursuing legislative policy that would help deliver Jobs, Jobs, Jobs as the highest priority for Congress.

Planned Parenthood has come under attack from conservatives after Lila Rose, an Andrew Breitbart-promoted videographer, presented heavily edited video she claims proves the organization engaged in systemic criminal activities.

This week, Rose's organization, Live Action, released the latest in a series of heavily edited videos that it claims exposes what the group calls "Planned Parenthood's cover-up of child sex trafficking." Of course, that isn't the case at all. Planned Parenthood had already reported the "potential sex trafficking" to law enforcement officials.

That's why I ask you to stand with me united against any effort to defund Planned Parenthood.

Dear Members of Congress,

Right-wing groups are once again attempting to destroy an organization dedicated to providing crucial primary care services to Americans that need them most. Armed with heavily edited videos, countless lies, and a shameless echo chamber that repeats unfounded accusations ad nauseam, they've now turned their sights to Planned Parenthood, which offers a range of important health and reproductive services that help both women and men prevent unintended pregnancies and provide screenings for cervical and other cancers.

We are writing to inform you that our organizations stand united in opposition to any effort to defund Planned Parenthood.

These attacks are not about the issue of choice. Instead they are designed to systematically vilify and destroy institutions dedicated to helping America's most vulnerable citizens with "evidence" that does not support their claims. They're about disempowering those who don't share their world view. And they're about intimidating those in desperate need of help.

Your constituents sent you to Washington to be a strong advocate for their interests and stand up for the quintessential American values of justice and fairness — and this latest digital witch hunt is neither just nor fair.

Sincerely,

National People's Action



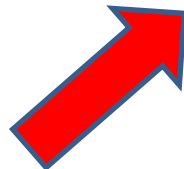
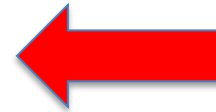
## Who We Are

The Fair Immigration Reform Movement is a national coalition of grassroots organizations fighting for immigrant rights at the local, state and federal level.

We are led by the Immigrant Organizing Committee, a group of 30 organizations committed to immigrant rights from across the country. [Learn about these groups here:](#)

National – [Center for Community Change](#), [GAMALIEL Foundation](#), [National Capital Immigration Coalition](#), [National Training and Information Center](#), [National Korean American Service and Education Consortium \(NAKASEC\)](#), [National People's Action \(NPA\)](#), [Mexican American Coalition](#)

NPA itself is on FIRM's "Immigrant Organizing Committee".



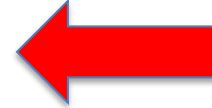
<http://fairimmigration.org/who-we-are/>





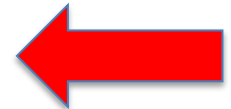
## Standing FIRM for All Families: FIRM calls for LGBT inclusion

Posted on [March 2, 2010](#) by [rachelfirm](#) | [2 Comments](#)



In 2010, as a member of FIRM, the Gamaliel Foundation added its voice to FIRM's call for LGBT inclusion in immigration reform.

Today, the [Fair Immigration Reform Movement](#), a coalition of grassroots organizations, released the following statement calling for LGBT inclusion in comprehensive immigration reform:





This statement from FIRM makes abundantly clear the intention of the entire organization, and its members, to include homosexual activism in immigration reform.

## FIRM Statement on Uniting American Families Act (UAFA)

We are moved by stories of bi-national couples who are fighting to keep their families together amidst a broken immigration system. Thousands of bi-national couples who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) are at risk of separation. With no clear pathway towards legalization nor federal recognition of same-sex couples, these couples live constantly in a state of fear or exile.

We believe that keeping families together should be an integral part of comprehensive immigration reform. We believe that we strengthen our communities and our nation when we support the right of all families to stay together, including LGBT families.

This is why we support the Uniting American Families Act (UAFA). UAFA would add the term “permanent partner” to those sections of the Immigration and Naturalization Act that apply to legally married couples. Under UAFA, a “permanent partner” is an adult who is in a committed, intimate relationship with another adult in “which both parties intend a lifelong commitment.” This legislation would afford equal immigration benefits to permanent partnerships as exist for married heterosexuals.

While we believe that comprehensive immigration reform will benefit lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) immigrants, we recognize that the intersection of migration, sexuality and gender expression impact LGBT immigrants in disparate ways. Issues of detention, deportation and asylum are not only issues of dignity for LGBT immigrants, but often also issues of safety. We must remember these experiences in the struggle for immigration reform.

We need solidarity across movements in order to build the power necessary to achieve justice for all our communities. Such solidarity means that we recognize the multiple ways that people across lines of race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability experience immigration. We must work to build strategic relationships that lift up the most vulnerable among us in the struggle for just and humane immigration reform. This includes the lives and experiences of LGBT immigrants.

Marissa Graciosa, director of FIRM, says:

*“There is power in our diversity, but we must honor that diversity. And it starts with keeping all families from all backgrounds together. This is why we support the Uniting American Families Act.”*