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CHARITY WATCHLIST

American Heart Association



PLANNED PARENTHOOD

 In a <u>blog post from 2023</u>, the American Heart Association wrote of its collaboration with a Planned Parenthood facility in Roanoke, Virginia, to launch a "blood pressure initiative":

"Over the past year, Planned Parenthood (PP) South Atlantic has provided reproductive health services, STI testing and treatment, cancer screenings, gender-affirming care, all while expanding to include primary care services. PP serves all community members, regardless of insurance status. ... Continuing their collaboration, the American Heart Association supported PP South Atlantic in developing a self-measured blood pressure (SMBP) initiative to enhance partnering with patients to achieve hypertension control. ... In 2023, this systems change be expanded to PP's Charlottesville health center, and we look forward to utilizing PP South Atlantic as a referral site for individuals who will need to establish primary care services and access SMBP through community-based BP screenings.

 ALL contacted the American Heart Association about its collaboration with Planned Parenthood and inquired if it has any current partnerships with the abortion organization. AHA's response:

"The American Heart Association does not currently have a relationship with Planned Parenthood. In 2023, the Association provided pilot grant funding to help implement a self-monitoring blood pressure control program for pregnant women in the Roanoke, VA, community. The Association regularly works with public and community healthcare clinics across the country to provide resources and education to address hypertension and other major cardiovascular and stroke health risk factors. These efforts target underserved and underrepresented communities.

American Heart Association, Inc.

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Mission

The causes, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cardiovascular disease, stroke, and other related diseases.

Focus

heart disease, circulatory system diseases, public health, health care access

When ALL inquired further if the American Heart Association would consider future partnerships with Planned Parenthood or collaborate with the organization again, AHA did not respond.

LGBTQ+

- The American Heart Association now provides a glossary of LGBTQ+ terms to show support for LGBTQ+ lifestyles.
- AHA's "Pride with Heart" section on its DEI web page is filled with pro-LGBTQ+ lifestyle articles and videos. One of these videos is a message from AHA's CEO, Nancy Brown, from 2020 about ways AHA is raising awareness of heart health for the LGBTQ+ community by participating in PRIDE events. This video is now linked on AHA's website.
- AHA published this article in 2024 about LGBTQ+ patients experiencing health inequities. The author expresses support for patients receiving "gender-affirming care" and using "gender-neutral pronouns."

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH

- The following are AHA's 2025 guidelines and policies for grant recipients regarding how they conduct their research:
 - a. Adult Human Stem Cells The American Heart Association funds human adult stem cell research. This research is governed by the standards described in "Ethical Aspects of Research with Human Subjects and Animals." These standards shall be applied by the AHA in funding any research involving human adult stem cells.

 b. Cloning - The AHA funds cloning research including human DNA sequences, cell lines and animals subject to ethical principles and restrictions to prevent abuse.

Acceptable research - Acceptable research involves cloning to generate animal models (such as transgenic animals) which express human disease for research use:

- o to develop specific treatments for persons suffering from diseases, and
- to produce tissue or organs for transplantation to replace or augment damaged or diseased tissues or organs in humans.

Areas ineligible for AHA funding: Cloning of humans as asexual reproduction or cloning of humans intended as sources of tissue or organs to harvest are not acceptable. However, the Association will fund research using human cell lines and DNA sequences for purposes of producing tissue or organs for transplantation to replace or augment damaged or diseased tissues or organs in humans.

- d. Human Embryonic Stem Cells or Fetal Stem Cells
 If your answer is "Yes," you are not eligible to apply. Research applications involving the creation of human embryos or the
 derivation or use of human stem cells from in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment embryos or fetal sources will not be accepted.
- e. Human Fetal Tissue
 The AHA does not fund scientific research that involves the use of human fetal tissue.
- · American Heart Association has also provided facts regarding the health risks of IVF and contraception in online articles:
 - An article from 9/26/2022 explains the 74% increased risk of hypertension in women who try in vitro fertilization.
 - A January 2024 article on what women should say to their OBGYN's regarding their heart health. The article admits contraception leads to blood clots.