

National Women's Law Center

(Washington, DC)

Health and Reproductive Rights Project

Total Award: \$165,000 over 1 year

To support the Health and Reproductive Rights Project to address religious restrictions at publicly-supported and corporate health care institutions and to establish legal and public policy principles for the benefit of health care consumers, with a special emphasis on women. A barrier to quality health care is created when hospitals, pharmacies, managed care companies and insurers refuse to provide or pay for services to which they have religious objection. The project will recruit and engage medical research, civil rights, end-of-life, medical practitioners', and broad-based health and consumer-oriented organizations to work in coalition to strengthen enforcement of existing federal and state laws and regulations and identify emerging state-level issues in this area. The project will support the engagement of its coalition partners in a number of ways, including preparing materials on the impact of religious restrictions imposed by health care institutions on issues of concern to the organizations' membership, providing legal advocacy services and technical assistance, securing and participating in meetings between coalition partners and government officials, and monitoring and reporting on proposed federal and state legislation or regulations that could weaken existing consumer protections.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$115,000 Health Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1*

\$50,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice: *Objectives I & II*