

CommonSpirit Health and the Sex-Change Industry

CommonSpirit 

May 2023

An investigative report into the largest Catholic health system in the United States and its performance and funding of transgender surgeries and therapies, abortions, and its prescribing and provision of contraception.



LEPANTO INSTITUTE 

JMJ

*This report is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title, "Our Lady of Victory."
Without her guidance, inspiration, and the Graces she obtains on our behalf, investigations and reports
such as this one would not be possible.*

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Michael Hichborn

The Lepanto Institute was created to present the facts regarding organizations that claim the name Catholic or even Christian but are acting in opposition to the teachings of our Blessed Lord and His Holy and Immaculate Church. Sadly, organizations like CommonSpirit Health, Catholic Relief Services, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Caritas Internationalis and many others are giving aid and comfort to the enemies of Christ. Even worse, dissident and apostate Catholics in politics and other prominent arenas are giving a false witness to the faith by claiming to be Catholic while promoting abortion, contraception and homosexuality. As a remedy to this grave situation, the purpose of the Lepanto Institute is to encourage recourse to the Holy Rosary, particularly offered for bishops and priests, while presenting the facts on individuals and institutions such as these.

Lepanto Institute
PO Box 269
Partlow, VA 22534
Email: Michael@Lepantoin.net
Website: www.LepantoIn.org
Phone: 540-847-5501
Written By: Michael Hichborn

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Executive Summary

The largest Catholic health system in the United States, CommonSpirit Health, is acting directly against Catholic moral teaching in direct defiance of its Catholic identity. This report will prove that CommonSpirit Health is performing transgender surgeries, providing hormone-based transgender therapies, providing puberty blockers to children under the auspices of so-called “gender-affirming care,” is financially subsidizing the same through its employee benefits packages, is financially subsidizing medical institutions performing these procedures and therapies, is providing all forms of modern contraception (including abortifacients) to patients, and is even performing elective abortions and surgical sterilizations.

Created in 2019, CommonSpirit Health, derives its Catholic identity through sponsorship from the Catholic Health Care Federation, a “public juridic person” whose authority is granted by the Vatican’s Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. This means that direct oversight and jurisdiction over CommonSpirit Health belongs to the Apostolic See in the Vatican, alone.

This report will provide indisputable proof of gross defiance of Catholic moral teaching on the part of CommonSpirit Health in five chapters. In the first chapter, we provide an analysis of CommonSpirit’s background. In this section, we illustrate the process by which CommonSpirit Health derives its Catholic identity and how it continues to maintain its Catholic identity in the public eye. This chapter also explains the various mergers since 2019 which have caused CommonSpirit Health to become not only the largest Catholic health system in the United States but the nation’s second-largest non-profit hospital chain.

In chapter two, this report provides links to and images of CommonSpirit Health’s very public support and promotion of homosexual and transgender ideologies. Through CommonSpirit’s own stated standards, video presentations, podcasts, symposium presentations, and other sources, what is clearly shown in this section is a corporate-wide attachment to perversion that is in direct conflict with its Catholic identity.

In Chapter Three, this report proves beyond all reasonable doubt that, as a “leader” and “top performer” in the HRC Healthcare Equality Index and through published CommonSpirit Employee Benefits Packages, CommonSpirit is providing health benefits to employees that cover sex-change surgeries, transgender hormone therapies, and puberty blockers for children. In this same section, the report provides proof that the same health benefits also cover all contraceptive methods, elective surgical sterilization, and abortions deemed to be “medically necessary” because the life of the mother is “endangered.”

Chapter Four of the report found proof of CommonSpirit Health facilities performing sex-change operations, cosmetic surgeries to alter the external appearance of transitioners and all manner of other transgender “services.”

In Chapter Five, this report proves that several CommonSpirit locations, including its own Catholic hospitals, are providing all forms of contraception, including abortifacients. This same chapter is proof of one of CommonSpirit’s facilities openly performing surgical sterilizations and elective abortions.

Given everything contained in this report, it is clear that CommonSpirit Health is NOT a Catholic institution and must be immediately stripped of its Catholic identity.

The hospitals and medical centers listed in the following chart have been identified in this report for one or more of the following offenses: performing sex-change surgeries; providing transgender healthcare “services (whether by referrals for or the provision of hormone treatments and puberty blockers);

providing employee healthcare benefits that cover transgender surgeries and/or “services”; committing abortions; dispensing contraception; performing surgical sterilizations.

Facility	CommonSpirit Subsidiary	Sex-Change Surgeries	Transgender Healthcare "Services"	Transgender Health Plan	Performs Abortion	Dispenses Contraception	Performs Surgical Sterilizations
Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
Northridge Hospital Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
Woodland Memorial Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
Sequoia Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
Methodist Hospital of Sacramento	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Francis memorial Hospital	Dignity Health	X	X	X			X
Memorial Hospital - Bakersfield	Dignity Health		X	X			
Glendale Memorial Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mark Twain Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
Community Hospital of San Bernardino	Dignity Health		X	X			
California Hospital Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
Dominican Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
Marian Regional Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy General Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy Hospital of Folsom	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy Medical Center Merced	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Elizabeth Community Hospital	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Johns Regional Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Josephs Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Mary's Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Elizabeth's Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
St. Bernardine Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy Medical Center Redding	Dignity Health		X	X			
Mercy San Juan Medical Center	Dignity Health		X	X			

Virginia Mason Medical Center	VMFH	X	X	X	X	X	X
St. Anne Hospital	VMFH					X	
St. Anthony Hospital	VMFH					X	
St. Clare Hospital	VMFH					X	
St. Elizabeth Hospital	VMFH					X	
St. Francis Hospital	VMFH					X	
St. Joseph Medical Center	VMFH					X	
St. Michael Medical Center	VMFH					X	
Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center	VMFH		X			X	
Virginia Mason Bainbridge Island Medical Center	VMFH		X			X	
Franciscan Medical Clinic - Spanway	VMFH		X			X	
Virginia Mason Federal Way Medical Clinic	VMFH		X			X	
CHI Franciscan Family Medicine Clinic	VMFH		X			X	
Virginia Mason Lynnwood Medical Center	VMFH		X			X	
Franciscan Medical Clinic - Westwood	VMFH		X			X	
Virginia Mason Franciscan Health Medical Pavilion	VMFH		X			X	
Virginia Mason University Village Medical Center	VMFH		X			X	
Franciscan Women's Health Associates - Burian	VMFH		X			X	
Franciscan Medical Clinic - Bremerton	VMFH		X			X	

Introduction

In the wake of the USCCB's new document on transgender surgeries titled, "[DOCTRINAL NOTE ON THE MORAL LIMITS TO TECHNOLOGICAL MANIPULATION OF THE HUMAN BODY](#)," the Lepanto Institute has learned that the largest Catholic healthcare system in the United States is deeply upset with the statement. Sources wishing to remain anonymous have told the Lepanto Institute that CommonSpirit Health is pushing back on the statement because it is already performing surgical procedures to give men and women the appearance of the opposite sex.

Alerted by our sources, the Lepanto Institute began to investigate CommonSpirit Health and all of its affiliated branches and confirmed that medical facilities belonging to the CommonSpirit Health network are performing the full range of transgender surgical procedures. Furthermore, we also discovered that many CommonSpirit locations are dispensing the full range of contraceptives, including abortifacients, and in some cases are also providing abortions themselves.

Background

CommonSpirit Health published a [press release on its website](#) on Feb. 1, 2019 announcing that "Dignity Health and Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) have come together as CommonSpirit Health, creating a new nonprofit Catholic health system focused on advancing health for all people and serving communities in 21 states." A few days later, [Non-Profit Quarterly declared](#) that CommonSpirit Health was now "the largest Catholic healthcare provider in the US."

In the September-October 2019 issue of Catholic Health Association's journal, "Health Progress," is an article titled, "[What's Behind a Name? CommonSpirit Health](#)," by Thomas Kopfensteiner, the chief mission officer for CommonSpirit Health. In the article, Kopfensteiner explained that the newly-formed organization had to undergo a moral review process for obtaining ecclesiastical approval. He stated that the approval of the joining of Dignity Health and CHI came "after a thorough moral analysis of the alignment that included consultation with Rome." However, the approval came with a caveat from the Archbishops overseeing the merger requiring "the name of the new system to be recognizably Catholic."

Explaining CommonSpirit Health's name, Kopfensteiner wrote:

"To meet these criteria, the committee reviewed more than 1,200 suggestions and proposed the name CommonSpirit Health for the system. It is a combination of two Catholic concepts: the common good, which is a central tenet of Catholic social teaching; and the Holy Spirit, the third person in the Holy Trinity."

The point here is simple. CommonSpirit Health is not simply a health network with a Catholic identity. The organization had to obtain approval all the way up to Rome for its creation. What this means is that the entire organization has an obligation to act within the boundaries of Catholic moral teaching, and as we will soon explain, this is not the case.

The corporate structure and Catholic identity of the network is complicated by several factors.

In March of 2022, [CommonSpirit published a quarterly report](#) giving a hint about its corporate structure while maintaining its Catholic identity. On the third page of the document, under the heading “Overview,” the quarterly report explains that:

"CommonSpirit Health is a Colorado nonprofit public benefit corporation exempt from federal and state income taxes. CommonSpirit Health is a Catholic health care system sponsored by the public juridic person, Catholic Health Care Federation."

A [March 2019 article](#) published by the Catholic Health Association explained that the role of the Catholic Health Care Federation was to “begin the work central to preserving and advancing the Catholic identity and values of one of the nation's largest Catholic health systems.” The article then provided a (now defunct) link to the [Catholic Health Care Federation’s \(CHCF\) sponsorship book](#), which illustrates the intimate ties between CHCF and the Vatican. Page 6 of the book provides the following key definitions:

Sponsorship: The canonical/Catholic Church relationship between a civil corporation and a ministry, which enables that ministry to have Catholic identity.

Public Juridic Person: An entity within the Roman Catholic Church that functions much as a corporation does within civil law. A public juridic person may acquire, retain, administer and alienate property in the name of the Roman Catholic Church (canon 1254). A public juridic person must be established by an appropriate ecclesiastical authority.

Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life: The ecclesiastical authority that granted Catholic Health Care Federation public juridic personality; the office in Rome/Vatican City to which Catholic Health Care Federation is accountable.

Page 20 of [CommonSpirit’s tax form 990 for fiscal year 2020](#) indicates that it is registered as a 509(a)(3) tax-exempt organization. [According to the IRS website](#), the 509(a)(3) designation is for what is called a “supporting organization,” which it defines as:

“a charity that carries out its exempt purposes by supporting other exempt organizations, usually other public charities. This classification is important because it is one means by which a charity can avoid classification as a private foundation, a status that is subject to a more restrictive regulatory regime.”

There are three categories or “types” of 509(a)(3) “supporting organizations,” and again, CommonSpirit’s 990 on page 20 indicates that it is “Type I.” [The IRS website explains](#) that a Type I supporting organization is as follows:

“A Type I supporting organization must be operated, supervised or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. The relationship between the supported organization(s) and the supporting organization is sometimes described as similar to a parent-subsidiary relationship.”

What this means is that CommonSpirit Health is a direct subsidiary of some other organization. This report has already explained that it derives its Catholic identity from the Catholic Health Care Federation,

but page 28 of CommonSpirit's tax form 990 states explicitly that CommonSpirit Health is a functional arm of the Catholic Church answerable ONLY to the Vatican. It says:

CommonSpirit is organized and operated, within the meaning of Section 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or as subsequently amended ("IRC"), exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, and/or carry out the religious, charitable, scientific, and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 509(a)(3) of the IRC, of Catholic Health Care Federation ("CHCF"), a public juridic person within the meaning of the Code of Canon Law for the Roman Catholic Church ("Canon Law"), including by supporting such other charitable organizations, **the purposes of which are to embody the mission of the healing ministry of Jesus in the Church** through ownership, management, or governance of health ministries, or the offering of or supporting of charitable and religious programs or services consistent with such purposes, in keeping with the Gospel Imperative. Because CHCF is part of the Roman Catholic Church, it is not required to apply for recognition of exempt status pursuant to IRC 508(c). By virtue of its decree of Canonical Erection by the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, CHCF is a juridic person of Pontifical Right, subject to the direct oversight and jurisdiction of the Apostolic See in the Vatican. **As a public juridic person in the Church, CHCF is the juridical equivalent of a diocese or parish or religious order in the Catholic Church. As a public juridic person, CHCF is not merely affiliated with the Catholic Church; it is the Catholic Church, an official part of the Church itself, with a munus or duty assigned to it by the Church, and able to act publicly in the name of the Church.** The Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life by decree dated June 8, 1991, conferred public juridic personality in the Church on CHCF, stating that CHCF was "to be governed in accordance with Canon Law and its own approved statutes."

In layman's terms, CommonSpirit Health is a direct subsidiary of the Catholic Health Care Federation (CHCF), and its entire purpose is to carry out "the mission of the healing ministry of Jesus in the Church." What is vitally important to understand about this section is that CHCF is here officially recognized not as a mere "part" of the Catholic Church, but "it is the Catholic Church, an official part of the Church itself, with a munus or duty assigned to it by the Church, and able to act publicly in the name of the Church." Therefore, every action of CommonSpirit is done in the name of the Catholic Church. And because CHCF was decreed as "a juridic person of Pontifical Right," it is "subject to the direct oversight and jurisdiction of the Apostolic See in the Vatican." This means that no member of the hierarchy has the authority to judge the matters contained in this report except for the Vatican itself. So, regardless of jurisdictional agreements pertaining to local management, all affiliates and subsidiaries which fall under CommonSpirit Health are under the auspices of the Catholic Church. Understanding the meaning of this Catholic Identity is vitally important as we explore the corporate structure of CommonSpirit as determined by the merge agreement of 2018.

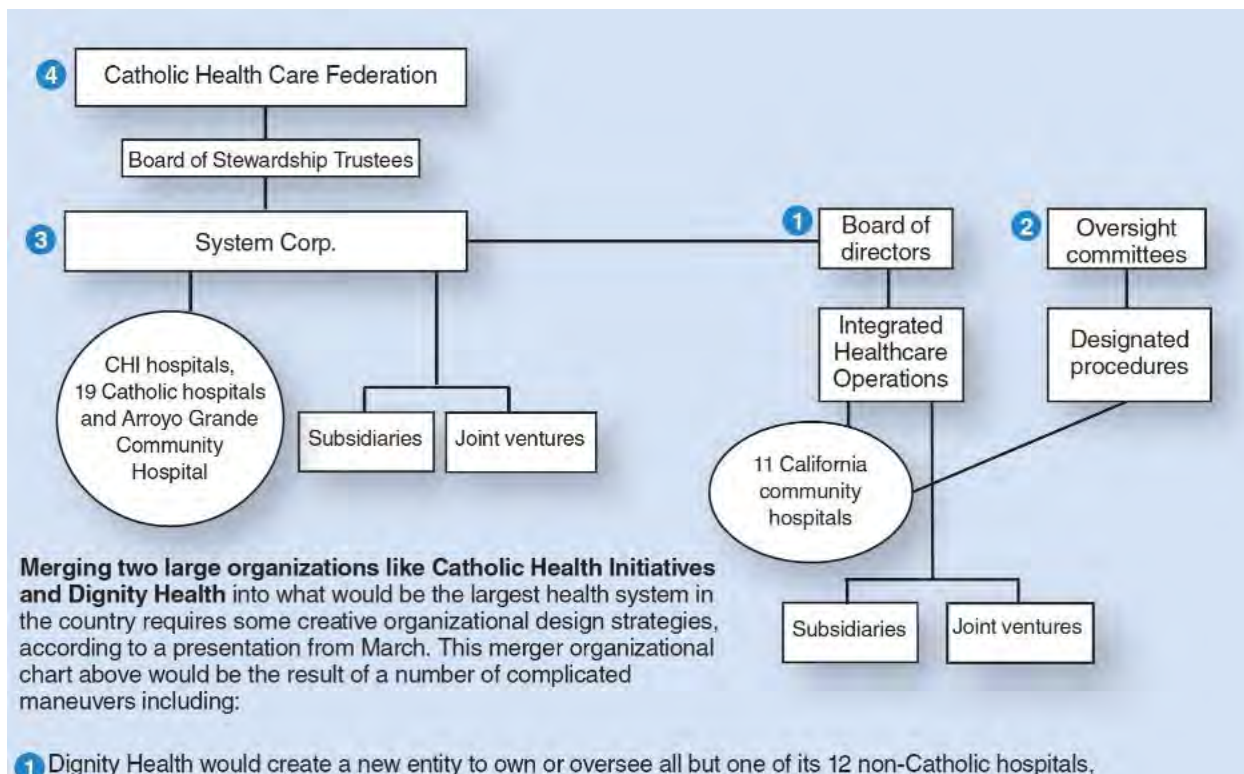
On September 10, 2018, Vizient and JD Healthcare published a document prepared for the Office of the California Attorney General titled (in part), "[Effect of the Ministry Alignment Agreement between Dignity Health and Catholic Health Initiatives](#)." Pages 10-19 explain the precise nature of the merger and various agreements pertaining to it. Throughout the merger process are several stipulations which establish separate but connected corporate entities that attempt to create structural barriers between the Catholic and non-Catholic facilities. The reason for this is to make an attempt at distinguishing between those facilities which provide gravely immoral services, such as abortion, contraception, and/or

transgender therapies and surgeries, and those that do not because of their affiliation with the Catholic Church. For instance, on page 10, the document indicates that the merging of Dignity Health and CHI would be done principally through a reorganizing and renaming of CHI's corporate structure, and that through this process, the newly reorganized structure (called "System Corporation") would "become the new parent organization over the new health system." The "System Corporation" is what would later be called "CommonSpirit Health." The governance of CommonSpirit coming from this merger would be comprised of six directors coming from the boards of Dignity Health and CHI, including the Chief Executive Officers from each. Simply put, the merger of the two entities would fall entirely under the headship of the reformed CHI, and board members from both organizations would share in its governance. Concomitant with this, Dignity Health's 12 non-Catholic hospitals were transferred to a separate corporate management entity referred to as "Integrated Healthcare Operations (IHO)." The document explains:

"As part of the transaction, Dignity Health formed a separate Colorado nonprofit corporation named Integrated Healthcare Operations (IHO). As of the Effective Date of the transaction, Dignity Health will transfer the assets of its eight non-Catholic owned hospitals (seven of which are in California and one in Arizona) to IHO. IHO will also become the sole corporate member of Dignity Health's four subsidiary hospitals in California for a total of 12 hospitals. The System Corporation is not a member of IHO. However, the System Corporation approves the majority of the IHO board from nominees selected by the IHO board and holds reserve powers over certain actions to be taken by IHO. IHO will not be Catholic, and the eleven California non-Catholic hospitals transferred to IHO from Dignity Health and one Arizona non-Catholic hospital will remain non-Catholic and not subject to the ERDs."

However, despite the attempt to legally isolate the non-Catholic hospitals thereby allowing for gravely immoral practices to continue, there is no escaping the fact that Dignity Health's hospitals all fall under the umbrella of CommonSpirit. A [CHI-Dignity Organizational Chart](#) published at PressReader.com gives the most concise explanation of the organizational governance of all entities that fall under the auspices of CommonSpirit Health:

1. Dignity Health would create a new entity to own or oversee all but one of its 12 non-Catholic hospitals, naming it at least for now "Integrated Healthcare Operations."
2. IHO would then create community-based oversight committees that would be responsible for managing the designated procedures that may not be allowed under Catholic Church directives.
3. CHI's legal structure would be used to form the merged, yet-to-be-named organization for now called System Corp., headed by co-CEOs Lloyd Dean and Kevin Lofton.
4. Governance oversight would come from both the canonical sponsor, called the Catholic Health Care Federation, and another entity called the Board of Stewardship Trustees. The board members would be identical to the federation members.



Since the time of the merger between Dignity Health and CHI in 2019, the legal lines between the Catholic and non-Catholic hospitals operating under the name of Dignity Health have been blurred to the point of obscurity. In July of 2022, [CommonSpirit published a list](#) of all organizations participating in CommonSpirit’s Organized Health Care Arrangement (OHCA). Included in the list are all medical facilities which fall under Dignity Health, both Catholic and non-Catholic. Additionally, we have examined the published websites for all Dignity Health hospitals, both Catholic and non-Catholic, and they all identify as members of CommonSpirit Health (more on that, later). What this means is that all Dignity Health hospitals and medical centers are under the authority and governance of CommonSpirit, which maintains its canonical sponsorship from Catholic Health Care Federation, which in turn, receives its Catholic identity and authority (which is extended throughout the entire corporate structure under it) from the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life in the Vatican.

Additional Mergers into CommonSpirit

Since its formation in 2019, CommonSpirit has absorbed two other health networks: Centura Health and Virginia Mason Fransiscan Health.

In [January 2021](#), FIERCE Healthcare reported that CommonSpirit Health had secured a merger between Virginia Mason and CHI Fransiscan to form Virginia Mason Fransiscan health. The article explains:

“Virginia Mason will combine with Tacoma, Washington-based CHI Franciscan to form an integrated health system to be known as Virginia Mason Franciscan Health. Officials said the combined health system will serve as a prototype of care innovation nationally as part of Chicago-based CommonSpirit Health.”

In other words, the creation of Virginia Mason Franciscan Health (VMFH) was done as a means of incorporating Virginia Mason into CommonSpirit Health. On the VMFH [“about us”](#) page, it confirms its affiliation with CommonSpirit and then specifically states, “Virginia Mason Franciscan Health is guided by the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services.” On the VMFH page for [“Mission, Vision, and Values,”](#) it says under “Mission,”:

“As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.”

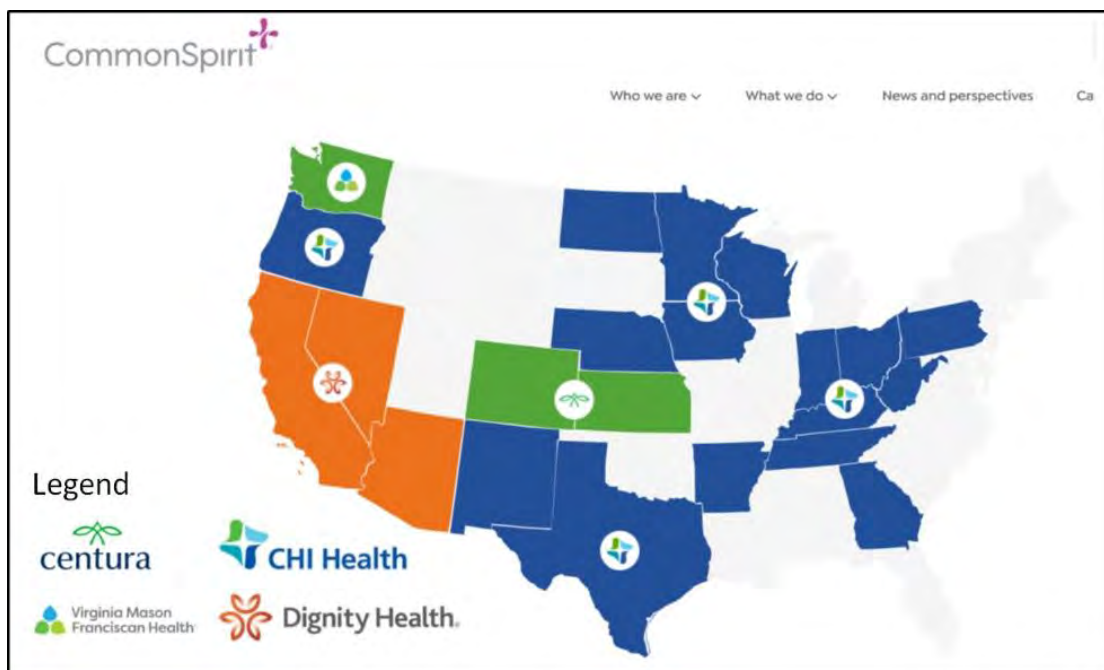
Just last month (February 2023), [CommonSpirit Health also acquired Centura Health](#), a management company jointly shared between CommonSpirit and AdventHealth. The details of this deal, according to the article, are as follows:

“CommonSpirit Health and AdventHealth have collaboratively agreed that they can best serve their communities and health care ministries without a partnership - with each organization directly managing their respective care sites which comprise Centura Health.

...

Following the transition, AdventHealth will operate and manage the 5 Adventist hospitals* and their affiliated clinics in Colorado, while CommonSpirit Health will operate and manage their 15 hospitals** and their affiliated clinics in Colorado and western Kansas.”

All of this background is necessary so the entire scope of the operation conducted by CommonSpirit can be understood in proper context. CommonSpirit’s [locations of operation](#) page displays an interactive map of regions illustrating the original name of each health system. For instance, the areas which were originally called Dignity Health are still shown as Dignity Health, even though they fall under CommonSpirit. The same is true for CHI, VMFH, and Centura. Since the map is interactive and displays each location only when a mouse cursor hovers over it, we have highlighted each location, with a legend, for ease of understanding.



CommonSpirit Promotes Homosexual and Transgender Ideologies

Online Statements of Support for LGBTQ Ideologies

On its [webpage regarding the advancement of “health equity,”](#) CommonSpirit makes oblique references to “expanding access to care in underserved communities,” including LGBTQ. Under the heading, “A more just health system,” CommonSpirit wrote:

CommonSpirit is acting to address systemic inequities experienced by Black, Indigenous, People of Color, as well as vulnerable and underserved populations including **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer communities.**

The first steps we are taking include **expanding access to care in underserved communities;** improving how we track outcomes by race, ethnicity and language as well as by **sexual orientation and gender identity;** expanding implicit and unconscious bias training; growing programs that address the social determinants of health to **remove barriers to good health** and further diversifying our leadership, workforce and suppliers.

While this doesn’t expressly state that CommonSpirit is engaging in the promotion of or even performance of transgender therapies or surgeries, this kind of language is deeply concerning due to the implication that there may be the advancement of gravely immoral practices in its medical community.

On [June 1, 2021](#), Lloyd Dean, then CEO of CommonSpirit Health, published a statement on his linkedin page giving full-throated support for homosexuality and transgenderism. Without illustrating any specific initiatives or provided procedures, Dean’s statement on behalf of CommonSpirit mixes its Catholic identity with support for LGBTQ ideologies, and shows a strong leaning toward providing immoral services (which will be later proved in this report). Dean wrote:

“The sisters who founded our health care ministry many years ago had an absolute commitment to compassionate care for all. This commitment, built into our DNA, calls on us to support those who face inequities, disparities, and discrimination, for any reason. That commitment is reflected in our mission that calls us to advance social justice for all and one of our core values, inclusion. **So I am proud to say that several of our hospitals have been designated as LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leaders by the Human Rights Campaign,** that CommonSpirit has co-signed a statement by Catholic bishops to protect LGBTQ youth from bullying, and that **we are undertaking other key initiatives in support of LGBTQ equality in health care.**”

Transgender Podcast

CommonSpirit Health records and publishes a podcast called “[The Ethics Lab Podcast](#)” hosted by [Kevin Murphy](#), Senior Vice President for Mission Innovation, Ethics and Theology at CommonSpirit Health. Recorded on multiple dates in 2019 and 2020, the Ethics Lab Podcast produced an episode titled, “[Transgender health: Accompaniment.](#)” The write-up on the episode and the list of guests for this episode was published as follows:

If primary health care professionals are to serve and accompany the transgender community well, what would that look like? What would need our attention? What approaches have proved helpful and supportive? What would accompaniment require from health care professionals? Our

guests today are either health professionals who are transgender or who have devoted their professional lives to serving the transgender community.

Our guests in this episode include:

- Shane Snowdon, past/founding director of the National Center for LGBTQ Health and Equity at UC San Francisco, past/founding director of the National LGBTQ Health and Aging Program at the Human Rights Campaign and Principal at EdgeWork Consulting
- Jamison Green, policy consultant for business, educational, and governmental institutions, and past president of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH)
- Lin Frasier, psychotherapist with a specialty of working with trans people, past president of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), former co-chair of the Global Education Initiative and co-chair of the ethics committee for WPATH
- Dr. Colt St. Amand, Clinical Psychologist, Author, Family Medicine Resident Physician and Chief Educational Officer of the Gender Education Network
- Sr. Luisa Derouen, a Dominican Sister of Peace who has been offering Spiritual Direction and accompaniment with transgender individuals across the country for over 22 years

The episode is nothing short of an apologetics for affirming people in their stated gender identities, up to and including the prescribing of hormone blockers.

The first guest, Shane Snowdon, opens by addressing how "embarrassing" it must be for a healthcare worker to "misgender" a patient. Snowdon strongly recommends that in such a case, the healthcare worker should go right back to the patient, apologize for the mistake, and ask for preferred pronouns and even the preferred name the patient would like to be called.

The second guest, at about 5 minutes in the podcast, is Jamison Green. Green claims to have heard stories about transgender individuals who were not only denied access to medical care for ailments like bronchitis or "being in the emergency room with a broken leg," but were actually "beaten, actually assaulted" by healthcare professionals "when they revealed the fact that they were transgender." Green then calls transgenderism a "very deeply spiritual process," by which he means, the transgender "spirit is one thing, and their body is another." This, of course, flies directly in the face of what the USCCB wrote in its "Doctrinal Note on the Moral Limits to Technological Manipulation of the Human Body." The Bishops said:

"the Church has always maintained that, while there is a distinction between the soul and the body, both are constitutive of what it means to be human, since spirit and matter, in human beings, "are not two natures united, but rather their union forms a single nature." The soul does not come into existence on its own and somehow happen to be in this body, as if it could just as well be in a different body. A soul can never be in another body, much less be in the wrong body."

Green, however, persisted in the podcast in the mindset that "your body is not you, your body is not your spirit."

The third guest, at about 13 minutes into the podcast, is Dr. Colton St. Amand, a woman who has undergone treatment to appear to be a man and who identifies as a man. Host Kevin Murphy's opening question to St. Amand was to ask for some "inspiring stories or experiences you've had as a transgender healthcare provider." St. Amand then proceeded to tell the story of a 15-year-old girl who wished to transition to a male. The entire tale was an apologia for providing transitional hormone treatments to kids. When Murphy asks about what St. Amand is "hearing" and "paying attention to" from colleagues engaged in "transgender care," St. Amand suggests that transgender care needs to be viewed as "primary care," including hormone treatments for kids.

The fourth guest, about 19 minutes and 40 seconds into the podcast, is Dr. Lin Frasier, and right off the bat, Murphy asked, "What are the claims that are not based in fact that are having a harmful effect in offering quality healthcare to the transgender community?" Frasier's response is to directly attack reparative therapy for people suffering gender dysphoria while also attacking the notion that transgenderism is a "mental illness" or a "condition that can be cured." Frasier claims that transgenderism is a "normal, normative part of the population; gender diversity."

The last guest, at about 22 minutes and 40 seconds, is Sr. Luisa Derouen. Murphy asked Sr. Luisa "given the spiritual direction that you have offered to transgender individuals, what would you say is their unique spiritual journey?" Her response was to say that the "most profound spiritual question is 'who am I?'" She then explained what "courage it takes, what honesty it takes, what work it takes, what persistence, what patience to do the hard work of self-knowledge - to be able to say, 'This is who I am' in the face of everybody else in their world telling them, 'No, that's not who you are, that's just who you think you are.'" She then said that "to watch people, to be part of that profoundly sacred journey of their coming to claim for themselves, 'This is who I am. This is who God made me' has been profound. It has been the greatest privilege of my life."

Symposium Promoting Transgender Therapies

Because this podcast was recorded at different points in 2019 and 2020, it shows that CommonSpirit was engaged in the promotion of transgenderism even from the very beginning. This is why it is no surprise that on November 20, 2021, CommonSpirit Health held a symposium that included an entire lecture on "gender-affirming hormone therapy." The Symposium was called, "[The 3rd Annual Women's Heart and Vascular Symposium](#)," held at the Omni Scottsdale Resort in Arizona. On the symposium's "[About Us](#)" page, it makes it very clear that it was an initiative of CommonSpirit Health, saying:

"This is the 3rd Annual Women's Heart & Vascular Symposium **hosted by Dignity Health's Women's Heart Health Program in Arizona through CommonSpirit Health's initiative** across the United States to improve cardiovascular outcomes in women and racial/ethnic communities." (emphasis added)

One of the sessions scheduled into the symposium was titled, "[Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy, Vascular Health and CVD in Transgender Women](#)." While the recording is no longer available at the Symposium website, it was uploaded to the [Dignity CME Symposium YouTube channel](#).

Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy, Vascular Health and CVD in Transgender Persons

Erin D. Michos, MD, MHS, FAHA, FACC, FASE, FASPC
 Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology
 Division of Cardiology
 Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
 Co-Editor in Chief, the *American Journal of Preventive Cardiology*
She/Hers

Women's Heart and Vascular Symposium
 #WHVSymposium21
 Nov 20, 2021
 @ErinMichos

Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy, Vascular Health & CVD in Transgender Women Communities | Dr Michos

DignityCME Symposium
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After opening with the statement that “transwomen are women, too,” the speaker, Dr. Erin Michos provided a slide in her presentation explaining transgender terminology.

Terminology

- **Sex:** Historically has referred to the sex assigned at birth, based on assessment of external genitalia, as well as chromosomes and gonads.
- **Gender identity:** A person's internal sense of self and how they fit into the world, from the perspective of gender.
- **Cisgender:** A person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with their birth sex
- **Transgender** is an umbrella term for persons whose gender identity or expression (masculine, feminine, other) is different from their sex (male, female) at birth.
- **Sexual orientation** differs from gender identity. Sexual orientation focuses on whom people are attracted to. People of any gender identity can have any sexual orientation or be asexual (lack or have low sexual attraction to others).

Safer JD, Tangpricha V. Care of the Transgender Patient. *Ann Intern Med.* 2019;171:ITC1-ITC16.

#WHVSymposium21
 @ErinMichos

At the end of a second slide on terminology, Dr. Michos explains the meaning of “Gender-affirming hormone treatment and surgeries.” The on-screen definition for this is “Broad categories of medical interventions that transgender persons might consider to align their appearance and their gender identity.”

After explaining all the terminology and then applauding other medical fields for recognizing transgenderism as normative, by about 4 minutes into the presentation Dr. Michos shifts gears to talk

about stress factors and social conditions. She addresses a concern about people not affirming individual gender identities or engaging in “transphobia,” which can lead to transgenders “trying to hide or not feeling like they can live their true selves.”

All of this is a lead-up to explaining that there is a multiplicity of “risk factors” related to various kinds of stress and mental and emotional duress for transgenders, mostly related to bigotry and non-acceptance, that then lead to cardiovascular events and trauma.

At 7 minutes 30 seconds in the presentation, Dr. Michos suggests that “gender affirming hormone therapy help may help mitigate some of this risk of depression.” She further explains that:

“non-treated transgender persons have a four-fold increased risk of depression so for many individuals using transgender affirming gender affirming hormone therapy is a really important part of their gender identity.”

For the next ten minutes, Dr. Michos provided slide after slide of data going back to the 1970s showing higher risks for men and women using hormone therapy to gain the appearance of the opposite sex. However, despite the very clear data showing high risks of heart attack or stroke due to the use of such use of hormone therapies, she said:

"I'm not saying that we wouldn't use gender affirming hormone therapy because it's really, really important for their gender appearance. But we need to recognize that they underline cardiovascular risk and so we need to optimize all the other cardiovascular risk factors, you know their blood pressure, and their glucose, and smoking cessation."

In other words, Dr. Michos is not discouraging the use of hormone therapies for changing the gender appearance of patients, but calling for doctors to include other treatments that would reduce the risk of a cardio-related event. So, as she progressed from this point in her presentation, she provided certain recommendations for mitigating the risk for a person undergoing transgender hormone treatments.

At the end of her talk, she complained about “enormous discrimination” regarding transgender patients, suggesting clinicians “start using the right pronouns.” Concluding her talk regarding all the potential to mitigate the higher risks associated with transgender hormone treatments, she said:

“gender affirming hormone therapy is really an important part of their gender identity for many - not all but many - for many transgender persons, and this can help buffer against some mental health disorders like depression ... we really need comprehensive cardiovascular risk assessment to identify and treat other risk factors and the, you know, the medical community needs to create a universally safe and non-threatening and supportive environment to provide equitable care.”

CommonSpirit Member Dignity Health “Celebrates Pride.”

On June 15, 2022, Dignity Health published a [video on YouTube](#) showing its celebration of “Pride Month.” The opening slide of the video shows the Dignity health logo with the words, “Human kindness opens doors” dressed in rainbow colors. In the lower right portion of the slide, it states that Dignity Health received the highest ratings from the Human Rights Campaign’s “LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality” rating system.



As the video shows Dignity Health participating in “Pride” parades,” the narration of the video states:

“we take pride in treating all people with dignity and respect so no matter who you are or who you love...

We are proud that each of our southern California hospitals have been designated as LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leaders or Top Performers in the Human Rights Campaign. ‘Love your pride’ fits perfectly with our core values of compassion and inclusion.”

What follows are some images from the brief video, providing a clear message of unrestrained support for homosexuality and transgender ideologies and activities.











CommonSpirit, HRC, and Employee Benefits

CommonSpirit Scores High on LGBTQ+ Rating System

As indicated in the Dignity Health Celebrates Pride video, Dignity Health received top-marks on the Human Rights Campaign's (HRC) Healthcare Equality Index. Dignity Health's webpage titled, "[Our Commitment to LGBTQ+ Care](#)," explains its involvement in the HRC index:

"We participate in HRC's Healthcare Equality Index.

All of our California hospitals participated in the HRC Foundation's national 2022 LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Index (HEI), a highly respected biannual assessment of the nation's hospitals. The HEI sets out stringent requirements for optimal care, employee support, and community involvement. We welcome this opportunity to demonstrate our deep commitment to the needs of our LGBTQ+ patients and employees, and to LGBTQ+ people in all of the communities we serve."

HRC's [Healthcare Equality Index](#) has five major categories of criteria with multiple subcategories beneath each. The categories are:

- [NON-DISCRIMINATION AND STAFF TRAINING](#)
 - Patient Non-Discrimination
 - Equal Visitation
 - Employment Non-Discrimination
 - Staff Training in LGBTQ+ Patient-Centered Care
- [PATIENT SERVICES AND SUPPORT](#)
 - LGBTQ+ Patient Services and Support
 - Transgender Patient Services and Support

- Patient Self-Identification
- Medical Decision-Making
- [EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND POLICIES](#)
 - Equal Benefits
 - Other Support for LGBTQ+ Employees
 - Transition Guidelines
- [CRITERIA 4: PATIENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT](#)
 - LGBTQ+ Patient and Community Engagement
- [CRITERIA 5: RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP](#)
 - Major Deductions
 - Minor Deductions

While there are grave moral concerns with each category, mostly related to public promotion and affirmation of homosexuality and transgenderism, we’re going to focus on the category requirements for “Employee Benefits and Policies.” The overview for this category states:

“It is critical that LGBTQ+ employees, like LGBTQ+ patients, receive equal treatment, particularly vis-à-vis health-related benefits and policies.”

To this end, HRC provides a scaled scoring system for facilities wishing to be listed in the HEI index. As long as 7 of the 15 questions are indicated as “practiced” by the facility, it will receive a perfect score of 15. However, there is one criteria which is scored independently of the rest, and it is a requirement for the facility to be granted “Leader” status. This criteria has to do with healthcare benefits for transgender employees of the facility. This is the stated criteria as it appears on the HRC website:

Healthcare benefits impacting transgender employees

The question in this subsection is scored independently and must be met in order to attain Leader status.

Equal health coverage for transgender individuals for medically necessary care. Baseline coverage MUST include the following items:

- Mental health benefits
- Pharmaceutical coverage (hormone replacement therapies, puberty blockers for youth)
- Coverage for medical visits or laboratory services
- Coverage for reconstructive surgical procedures related to gender reassignment (including reconstructive chest, breast, and genital procedures and related medically necessary procedures such as hair removal prior to genital procedures and revisions)
- Short-term medical leave

Covered transgender-inclusive treatments and procedures must be clearly listed in the contract documentation **and the scope of each benefit must be described clearly in the employee benefits materials so that employees and their eligible dependents can easily understand what is covered**

The plan must eliminate other barriers to coverage.

Of particular note for these criteria is that coverage for hormone replacement therapies, puberty


blockers for youth, and full transgender surgeries, both top and bottom, are **required** for the facility to attain “Leader” status on the HEI. In fact, by clicking the expandable questions related to each subcriteria, it is clear that the verification process renders it impossible for a facility to be accidentally listed as receiving credit for it. The expanded section states:

Covered transgender-inclusive treatments and procedures must be clearly listed in the contract documentation and the scope of each benefit described clearly in the employee benefits materials so that employees and their eligible dependents can easily understand what is covered. The plan must eliminate other barriers to coverage.

For the HEI, **facilities must submit three different documents to validate and prove the availability of these benefits.** (emphasis added)

- The first document needed is your Summary Plan Documentation -- the contract your facility has with your insurer. This SPD will detail the various gender transition coverages available. So when an employee looks at their benefits package (and sees eligibility information, COBRA information, limitations, exclusions, etc), they would see that gender transition coverage is available.
- The second document needed is the Clinical Plan Bulletin (sometimes called a medical policy) provided by your insurer. This document describes the overall range of gender transition services provided by the insurer. You can look at this list to find the standard Clinical Plan Bulletins for most insurers. Please note that the services of the insurer does NOT mean your organization necessarily offers these services. Your organization’s SPD will describe what specific gender transition coverages you have opted into.
- The third document needed is a sample of your employee benefits materials that clearly describes what is covered. This should be different than your Summary Plan Documentation. Examples of this may include slides from a benefits presentation, an LGBTQ+ benefits guide, or other materials given to the employee that explicitly state the availability of these benefits.

Given this, the following 13 CommonSpirit Health facilities received a full 100 points and “Leader” status from HRC on the HEI. This means that these facilities give coverage for hormone replacement therapies, puberty blockers for youth, and full transgender surgeries to employees. In fact, each one of these health facilities specifically received a blue checkmark on their profiles, indicating that they have employee health benefits that cover the aforementioned transgender “treatments.”

Transgender Inclusive Health Insurance	5/5
 Provides at least one health plan that covers medically necessary services for transgender people, including gender transition-related treatment.	

These facilities are:

- [Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital](#)


Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
155 Glasson Way
Grass Valley, CA 95945

CONTACT
☎ (530) 274-6000
🌐 Visit Website

100
2022 SCORE



- [Virginia Mason Medical Center](#)


Virginia Mason Medical Center

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1100 9th Ave
Seattle, WA 98101-2756
📍 Map

CONTACT
☎ (206) 223-6600
🌐 Visit Website

100
2022 SCORE



- [Northridge Hospital Medical Center](#)


Northridge Hospital Medical Center

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
18300 Roscoe Blvd
Northridge, CA 91325

CONTACT
☎ (818) 885-8500
🌐 Visit Website

100
2022 SCORE



- [Woodland Memorial Hospital](#)


Woodland Memorial Hospital

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1325 Cottonwood St
Woodland, CA 95695-5131
[Map](#)

CONTACT
☎ (530) 662-3961
[Visit Website](#)

100
2022 SCORE



- [Sequoia Hospital](#)


Sequoia Hospital

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
170 Alameda De Las Pulgas
Redwood City, CA 94062-2751
[Map](#)

CONTACT
☎ (650) 369-5811
[Visit Website](#)

100
2022 SCORE



- [Methodist Hospital of Sacramento](#)

Methodist Hospital of Sacramento

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
7500 Hospital Dr
Sacramento, CA 95823

CONTACT
☎ (916) 423-3000
[Visit Website](#)

100
2022 SCORE



- [Saint Francis Memorial Hospital](#)


Saint Francis Memorial Hospital

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
900 Hyde St
San Francisco, CA 94109-4806

CONTACT
☎ (415) 353-6000
[Visit Website](#)

100
2022 SCORE



- [Memorial Hospital - Bakersfield](#)

Memorial Hospital - Bakersfield

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
420 34th St
Bakersfield, CA 93301

CONTACT
☎ (661) 327-1792
[Visit Website](#)

100
2022 SCORE



- [Glendale Memorial Hospital & Health Center](#)


Glendale Memorial Hospital & Health Center

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1420 S Central Ave
Glendale, CA 91204

CONTACT
☎ (818) 502-1900
[Visit Website](#)

100
2022 SCORE



- [Mark Twain Medical Center](#)

Mark Twain Medical Center


NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (209) 754-3521
🌐 Visit Website

ADDRESS
768 Mountain Ranch Rd
San Andreas, CA 95249-9707
📍 Map

100

2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX

**LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY**
 2022
LEADER

- [Community Hospital of San Bernardino](#)

Community Hospital of San Bernardino


NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (909) 887-6333
🌐 Visit Website

ADDRESS
1805 Medical Center Dr
San Bernardino, CA 92411-1217

100

2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX

**LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY**
 2022
LEADER

- [French Hospital Medical Center](#)

French Hospital Medical Center


NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (805) 543-5353
🌐 Visit Website

ADDRESS
1911 Johnson Ave
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-4131

100

2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX

**LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY**
 2022
LEADER

- [California Hospital Medical Center](#)

California Hospital Medical Center

100
2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX
LGBTQ+ HEALTHCARE EQUALITY
2022
LEADER

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (213) 748-2411
🌐 Visit Website

ADDRESS
1401 S Grand Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90015

While these facilities are not “Catholic,” they are nonetheless all members of CommonSpirit and fall under the sponsorship of the Catholic Health Care Federation, which receives its approbation from the Vatican. However, in addition to these non-Catholic facilities, a similar number of CommonSpirit facilities that are Catholic are engaged in the same wicked coverage of benefits for self-claiming transgender individuals.

The following 14 CommonSpirit Health facilities listed on the HRC Healthcare Equality Index are all “Catholic” facilities. While they did not receive a full score of “100” from HRC, every single one of these “Catholic” facilities are confirmed to have employee healthcare benefits coverage for hormone replacement therapies, puberty blockers for youth, and full transgender surgeries to employees, as is verified by the blue checkmark in their profiles indicating as such. All of these facilities, except for Mercy San Juan Medical Center, received a score of 95, having 5 points deducted from Criteria 5: Responsible Citizenship. Mercy San Juan Medical Center received a score of 75, having 25 points deducted for that same portion.

These facilities are:

- [Dominican Hospital](#)

Dominican Hospital

95*
2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX
LGBTQ+ HEALTHCARE EQUALITY
2022
TOP PERFORMER

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (831) 462-7700
🌐 Visit Website
📝 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

ADDRESS
1555 Soquel Dr
Santa Cruz, CA 95065
📍 Map

- [Marian Regional Medical Center](#)

Marian Regional Medical Center

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1400 E Church St
Santa Maria, CA 93454

CONTACT
☎ (805) 739-3000
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*

2022 SCORE

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LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY

2022

TOP PERFORMER

- [Mercy General Hospital](#)

Mercy General Hospital

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
4001 J St
Sacramento, CA 95819
📍 Map

CONTACT
☎ (916) 453-4545
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*

2022 SCORE

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LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY

2022

TOP PERFORMER

- [Mercy Hospital of Folsom](#)

Mercy Hospital of Folsom

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1650 Creekside Dr
Folsom, CA 95630
📍 Map

CONTACT
☎ (916) 983-7400
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*

2022 SCORE

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LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY

2022

TOP PERFORMER

- [Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield - Truxtun Campus](#)


Mercy Hospitals of Bakersfield - Truxtun Campus

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
2215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301-3698

CONTACT
☎ (661) 632-5000
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*
2022 SCORE



- [Mercy Medical Center Merced](#)


Mercy Medical Center Merced

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
333 Mercy Ave
Merced, CA 95340
📍 Map

CONTACT
☎ (209) 564-5000
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*
2022 SCORE



- [Mercy Medical Center Mt Shasta](#)


Mercy Medical Center Mt Shasta

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
914 Pine St
Mount Shasta, CA 96067-2143

CONTACT
☎ (530) 926-6111
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*
2022 SCORE



- [St. Elizabeth Community Hospital](#)


St Elizabeth Community Hospital

95*
2022 SCORE

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
2550 Sister Mary Columba Dr
Red Bluff, CA 96080-4327

CONTACT
☎ (530) 529-8000
🌐 Visit Website
🗨 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services



- [St. John's Regional Medical Center](#)


St Johns Regional Medical Center

95*
2022 SCORE

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1600 N Rose Ave
Oxnard, CA 93030

CONTACT
☎ (805) 988-2500
🌐 Visit Website
🗨 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services



- [St. Joseph's Medical Center](#)


St Josephs Medical Center

95*
2022 SCORE

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1800 N California St
Stockton, CA 95204
📍 Map

CONTACT
☎ (209) 943-2000
🌐 Visit Website
🗨 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services



- [St. Mary's Medical Center](#)

St Marys Medical Center

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
450 Stanyan St
San Francisco, CA 94117
[Map](#)

CONTACT
☎ (415) 668-1000
[Visit Website](#)
🗨 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*

2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX
**LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY**
 2022
TOP PERFORMER

- [St. Mary's Medical Center - Long Beach](#)

St. Mary's Medical Center - Long Beach

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
1050 Linden Ave
Long Beach, CA 90813-3321

CONTACT
☎ (562) 491-9000
[Visit Website](#)
🗨 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*

2022 SCORE

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**LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY**
 2022
TOP PERFORMER

- [St. Bernardine Medical Center](#)

St Bernardine Medical Center

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

ADDRESS
2101 N Waterman Ave
San Bernardino, CA 92404
[Map](#)

CONTACT
☎ (909) 883-8711
[Visit Website](#)
🗨 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

95*

2022 SCORE

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**LGBTQ+
HEALTHCARE
EQUALITY**
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TOP PERFORMER

- [Mercy Medical Center Redding](#)

Mercy Medical Center Redding

95*
2022 SCORE

HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX
LGBTQ+ HEALTHCARE EQUALITY
2022
TOP PERFORMER

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (530) 225-6000
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

ADDRESS
2175 Rosaline Ave
Redding, CA 96001

- [Mercy San Juan Medical Center](#)

Mercy San Juan Medical Center

75*
2022 SCORE

Participant

NETWORK
[CommonSpirit Health](#)

CONTACT
☎ (916) 537-5000
🌐 Visit Website
📄 *Responsible Citizenship: Note on Transgender Services

ADDRESS
6501 Coyle Ave
Carmichael, CA 95608

CommonSpirit Employee Benefits Cover Sex-Change “Treatments” and Surgeries

The Human Rights Campaign’s verification process for confirming that each of these 27 CommonSpirit Health facilities are providing employee benefits packages that include coverage for transgender operations, hormone therapies and puberty blockers for children is thorough. But given the activist nature of the organization, we could not take HRC at its word, so the Lepanto Institute sought independent confirmation. What we discovered is an employee benefits health plan which specifically falls under CommonSpirit. This employee healthcare benefits plan includes transgender surgeries and treatments, confirming in principle the assessments made by HRC.

The document titled “[Medical Plan Document Dignity Health Ventura PPO](#),” is marked “effective January 1, 2022,” and states in the Introduction on page 3 that it is a health benefit plan for employees of Dignity Health:

“You are a valued Employee of DIGNITY HEALTH, and your Employer is pleased to sponsor the Plan to provide benefits that can help meet your health care needs. The Plan is self-funded with Employer and Employee contributions.”

The introduction also indicates that this plan falls under employee benefits of CommonSpirit by stating that it and other related “official documents can be found on MyBenefits at

home.commonspirit.org/employeecentral/mybenefits.” In fact, CommonSpirit’s direct involvement in this particular health benefits plan is confirmed on page 5, where it says:

“If you have questions about your Dignity Health benefits, call the **CommonSpirit Health Benefits Contact Center** at 1.855.475.4747 and press option 1.” (emphasis added)

It’s important to establish CommonSpirit’s role in this health benefits plan, as it corroborates the claims made on HRC’s Health Equality Index saying that CommonSpirit Employment benefits packages cover transgender hormone treatments, puberty blockers for children, and even transgender surgeries. Page 9 of the Health Benefits Plan specifically states that “Transgender/Gender Dysphoria coverage/surgery” is covered, provided there is “pre-certification of the Medical Necessity” of these measures.

UTILIZATION REVIEW

The utilization review program is designed to help ensure that all Covered Persons receive Medically Necessary and appropriate health care while avoiding unnecessary expenses.

- Pre-certification of the Medical Necessity for the following non-Emergency Services before services are provided (complete list is available upon request).
 - Advanced imaging procedures, including but not limited to: MRI, CT scan, PET scan, MRS scan, MRA scan, echocardiography, and nuclear cardiac imaging
 - Air ambulance
 - Home health care
 - Hospitalizations (except for maternity stays of less than 48 hours for a normal delivery or less than 96 hours for a cesarean section)
 - Infusion therapy
 - Inpatient surgeries
 - Morbid obesity surgery (i.e., bariatric surgery)
 - Prosthetics
 - Rehabilitation Facility stays
 - Skilled Nursing Facility stays
 - Durable Medical Equipment
 - Radiation therapy
 - Outpatient surgeries performed in a facility or a doctor’s office
 - Substance Use Disorder/Mental Disorder inpatient admissions
 - TMJ treatment
 - Transgender/Gender Dysphoria coverage/surgery
 - Transplants, including but not limited to organ and stem cell transplants

Further details regarding the nature of transgender procedures covered by the Health benefits Plan begin on page 28 under the heading, “COVERED MEDICAL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES.” The opening to this section explains:

“This Plan provides coverage for the following covered benefits if services are authorized by a Physician or other qualified Provider, if applicable, and are Medically Necessary for the treatment of an Illness or Injury, subject to any limits, maximums, exclusions, or other Plan provisions shown in this document.”

Continuing this section on page 41, the plan explains the following regarding coverage for transgender-related procedures:

Transgender Healthcare

Transition-related services to treat gender dysphoria or gender identity disorders include:

- Medically Necessary gender-reassignment and reconstructive services.
- Medically Necessary mental health care related to all stages of the transition.
- Medically Necessary hormone therapy is covered under the separate prescription drug plan.

Pre-certification is required for all transgender and gender dysphoria services.

Clearly, CommonSpirit and Dignity Health are indeed providing employee health coverage for hormone treatments and surgical procedures related to transgender employees and their dependent family members. The Human Rights Campaign's evaluation for its Healthcare Equality Index concluded it, and this CommonSpirit/Dignity health employee health benefits plan confirms it. But treatments and surgeries related to transgenderism aren't the only morally deplorable things covered under this plan. The plan also covers abortion "if the mother's life is endangered by the pregnancy," contraception, and elective sterilization surgeries. On page 55, under "Plan Exclusions," the document explains that elective abortion is not covered, but abortions deemed to be "medically necessary" because the life of the mother is "endangered," then the abortion would be covered under the plan.


PLAN EXCLUSIONS
<p>Exclusions, including complications from excluded items are not considered covered benefits under this Plan and will not be considered for payment as determined by the Plan.</p> <p>The Plan does not pay for Expenses Incurred for the following, <u>unless otherwise stated below.</u> Exclusions related to Prescription Drugs are shown in the Prescription Drug Benefits section of this document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abortion. Elective abortion <u>unless the mother's life would be endangered by the Pregnancy if the fetus were to be carried to term.</u> Note: Complications arising out of an abortion are covered as any other Sickness.

It is vitally important to note here that a former Catholic hospital administrator, [Sr. Margaret McBride](#), [was formally excommunicated](#) by Bishop Thomas Olmstead of Phoenix, Arizona for permitting an abortion that she deemed to be "medically necessary" in a Catholic hospital. The fallout of this act resulted in St. Joseph's Hospital, a [current member of Dignity health](#) and the hospital where the abortion took place, was [stripped of its Catholic identity](#) by Bp. Olmstead. So what this health benefits plan for employees of CommonSpirit and Dignity Health shows is that employees are now covered for an act that caused the excommunication of a hospital administrator and the stripping of that hospital's Catholic identity.

Page 22 of the employee health benefits plan shows that it covers known abortifacient contraceptives.

☎ = Benefits with this symbol require pre-certification. If you have any questions about the pre-certification process, claim status or medical plan benefits, call BRMS Customer Service at 1.866.750.0576.			
Service Type Dignity Health Ventura PPO	Dignity Health Preferred Network Tier 1	Anthem PPO Provider Network Tier 2	Out-of-Network Tier 3
Preadmission Testing	See Diagnostic Testing	See Diagnostic Testing	See Diagnostic Testing
	Must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performed on an outpatient basis within 14 days before a scheduled Hospital confinement; and Your Physician ordered the tests. Covered Charges for this testing will be payable even if tests show the condition requires medical treatment prior to Hospital confinement or the Hospital confinement is not required.		
Prescription Drugs with Coordination of Benefits	See Prescription Drug Benefit	See Prescription Drug Benefit	See Prescription Drug Benefit
Preventive Care (Includes all Ancillary Charges) • Breast Pump	Please see https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/preventive-care-benefits/ for complete listing and frequencies (unless listed below).		
	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	Not covered
• <u>Contraceptive Management</u>	Limit to one per pregnancy.		
	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	Not covered
	<u>Medical benefits only: FDA-approved injectable contraceptives, implantable contraceptives, and contraceptive devices.</u> Allowable Charges related to Physician or clinic contraceptive services, including the measuring, fitting or insertion or removal of covered devices and the purchase of covered devices, are covered. This is covered as a service of the professional Provider who administers them.		

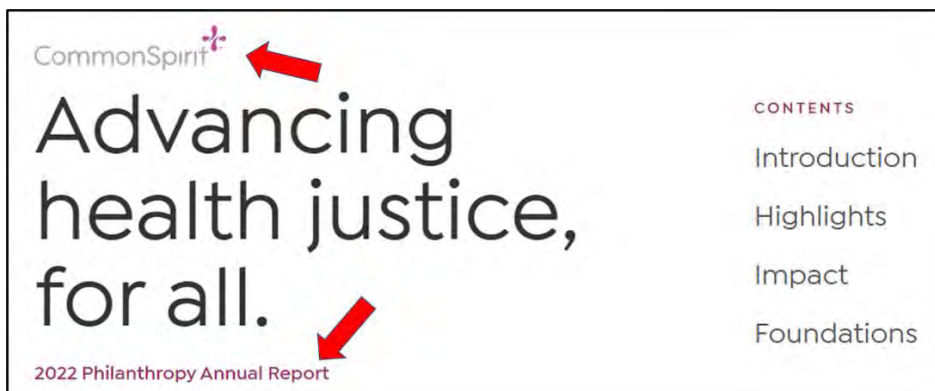
Concomitant with this, the health benefits plan also covers elective and voluntary sterilization procedures. Page 40 of the plan explains that “Facility and other Provider charges for care and treatment related to voluntary female and male surgical sterilizations are covered.” The chart of covered services on page 24 states that elective or voluntary sterilization for women “Includes all related services such as anesthesia and facility charges.” The same chart indicates that male sterilizations are “not covered” except when deemed “medically necessary.”

 = Benefits with this symbol require pre-certification. If you have any questions about the pre-certification process, claim status or medical plan benefits, call BRMS Customer Service at 1,866,750,0576.

Service Type Dignity Health Ventura PPO	Dignity Health Preferred Network Tier 1	Anthem PPO Provider Network Tier 2	Out-of-Network Tier 3
• Outpatient Services	Benefits for outpatient SNF are the same as the benefits for outpatient Hospital diagnostic X-ray, laboratory, pathology, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, radiation therapy, and inhalation therapy services shown elsewhere in this section.		
Speech Therapy • Freestanding Facility • Outpatient Hospital • Physician Office	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	80% of Maximum Allowable Charges, after Deductible	50% of Maximum Allowable Charges, after Deductible
<u>Sterilization (Female), Voluntary or Elective</u>	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	100% of Maximum Allowable Charges	Not covered
	<u>Includes all related services such as anesthesia and facility charges.</u>		
<u>Sterilization (Male)</u>	Not covered	Not covered	Not covered
	Medically Necessary male sterilization is covered same as surgery.		

It is inconceivable that a Catholic hospital network, let alone one as large as CommonSpirit, is allowed to maintain a Catholic identity while stating an intention to pay for employees to undergo gender transitioning “treatments,” covering for abortion in certain circumstances (life of the mother), covering for contraceptives and even sterilizations. And yet, according to the Human Rights Campaign, 27 facilities belonging to CommonSpirit Health have each provided three documents proving that they are covering employees for transgender services, and this employee benefits health plan falling under CommonSpirit strongly supports this claim. But the problem extends well beyond merely covering these things for employee benefit. CommonSpirit facilities are actually providing the full gamut of transgender services, including top and bottom surgical procedures.

CommonSpirit Locations Perform or Refer for Transgender Operations



CommonSpirit Health’s 2022 Philanthropy Annual Report provides an overview of the various philanthropic initiatives being spearheaded by CommonSpirit Health. Contained in this report is a bold admission that CommonSpirit has a particular hospital location that is performing transgender surgeries. Listed in the table of contents is “[Foundations](#),” under which is the heading “Health

Justice.” Indicating that CommonSpirit has committed \$5.1 million “to support programs and initiatives that enable all people to be healthy and safe,” CommonSpirit asserts that its “core commitment to advancing health justice is evident not only in our national efforts but in the work of each of our local fundraising offices in the communities we serve.”

Affirming this commitment, CommonSpirit then gave a spotlight to its San Francisco based and sacrilegiously named member, Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Gender Institute. In this document, CommonSpirit praised the work of the hospital for providing “services” to transgender patients, including “Gender Confirmation Surgery.” It wrote (with emphasis added):

“The pursuit of health justice takes many forms, as do the vulnerable populations we serve. **At San Francisco’s Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Gender Institute, philanthropy is helping to deliver culturally-competent, high-quality and affordable health services to transgender patients** and their families in a safe and respectful environment. Since 2016, **Saint Francis Foundation has provided more than \$7.1 million to the institute for state-of-the-art robotic surgical equipment**, perioperative services, physician and staff training and education, wrap-around support programs and community-based peer-to-peer navigation services. **Funding directly supports and improves local health care delivery to transgender and gender non-conforming patients** and their families and ensures a high-quality continuum of care both within and beyond the hospital environment. The foundation is currently supporting early phase planning for the Gender Institute Resource Center to be housed onsite at the hospital.

Saint Francis Memorial Hospital is the world’s first hospital to receive accreditation as a Center of Excellence in Gender Confirmation Surgery and was designated as a LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leader in the Human Rights Campaign Foundation’s 2022 Healthcare Equality Index.”

On October 27, 2022, the Saint Francis Foundation held a [ribbon cutting ceremony](#) for its new Da Vinci surgical robot. The press statement published at the Saint Francis Foundation website says “In 2022, Saint Francis Foundation awarded SFMH over \$2.6 million to purchase the hospital’s second da Vinci system.” Confirming the new robot’s role in performing transgender surgeries, the statement said, “Without the Foundation’s funding, SFMH would be unable to adequately support the transgender community and patients of their additional service lines.”

The Saint Francis Memorial Hospital (SFMH is a member of CommonSpirit Health. On SFMH’s [“about us”](#) page, it states very clearly:

“As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.”

At the bottom of the page, it says: **“Saint Francis Memorial Hospital is a part of CommonSpirit Health**, a national health care ministry that shares the above mission, vision, and values.”

According to the [timeline of SFMH’s history](#), the hospital has been performing transgender surgeries on premises since 1966, and in 2021 (after it was acquired by CommonSpirit Health), SFMH received the Surgical Review Corporation’s (SRC) **“Center of Excellence in Gender Confirmation Surgery Accreditation based on the number of surgeries performed at the hospital.”**

Dignity Health. Hello humankindness Search Schedule an appointment

Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Services Patients & visitors Classes & events

Timeline

1966 - Dr. Edward Falces performs the first transgender surgery in the United States at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital in San Francisco. Dr. Lesley Hovey, Dr. James Kauth and Dr. Doug Ousterhout followed in performing surgeries for transgendered patients.

2016 – The Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Gender Institute is established.

2019 - Saint Francis Memorial Hospital hosts San Francisco's first medical conference on transgender health—marking the public launch of its Gender Institute with Transgender only surgeons.

2020 – Saint Francis Memorial Hospital earns an LGBTQ Health Care Quality Leader™ designation from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation (HRC)

2021 – Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Nurse receives a Transgender Certified Care specialization.

2021 - Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Achieves SRC's Center of Excellence in Gender Confirmation Surgery Accreditation based on the number of surgeries performed at the hospital. To date, Saint Francis remains the first hospital in the United States and internationally to receive this designation and Dr. Wittenberg, Medical Director for the Gender Institute has been recognized as a Master Surgeon by the SRC.

2022 - Saint Francis Memorial Hospital continues to achieve an LGBTQ+ Health Care Quality Leader™ designation from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation (HRC)

SFMH's webpage that indicates which services it provides states boldly and plainly that it performs all manner of transgender surgeries and treatments.

Dignity Health. Hello humankindness Search Schedule an appointment

Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Services Patients & visitors Classes & events

Gender Affirming Surgery

Gender Expansive and Non-Binary Affirmation Surgery | Transfeminine Male to Female Gender Affirming Surgery | Transmasculine Female to Male Gender Affirming Surgery | Gender Affirming Surgeons and Providers

GENDER AFFIRMING SERVICES

Our providers provide individualized surgical treatment options that may include full or modified procedures traditionally referred to as "transfeminine" or "transmasculine" (see below). We also provide primary care and consultation for those seeking support for healthy living in all gender identities and sexual orientations.

At the Saint Francis Memorial Hospital Gender Institute we offer:

Included in the list of surgical procedures provided by CommunitySpirit's Saint Francis Memorial Hospital are facial and body reconstructive surgeries to make the individual appear to be more masculine or feminine, genital reconstruction procedures, vocal alteration surgeries, and a host of other abominations. What follows is the complete list of available options for transgender operations provided by Saint Francis Memorial Hospital:

GENDER EXPANSIVE AND NON-BINARY AFFIRMATION SURGERY

- Individualized Affirmation Surgery Options
 - Breast augmentation
 - Genital surgery
 - Hysterectomy with or without ovaries
 - Nullification
 - Orchiectomy
 - Orthognathic/facial surgery
 - Penile preserving vaginoplasty
 - Top surgery
 - Tracheal surgery
 - Vaginal preserving metoidioplasty
 - Vocal cord surgery
-

TRANSFEMININE MALE TO FEMALE GENDER AFFIRMING SURGERY

These male to female surgeries are for patients who are looking to acquire male characteristics.

- Brow Lifts
- Facelift, neck lift, brow lift, blepharoplasties
- Forehead Contouring
- Genioplasty (chin contouring)
- Jaw Contouring
- Masseter reduction
- Rhinoplasties
- Revision rhinoplasties
- Scalp advance
- Tracheal shave (Chondrolaryngoplasty)
- Tracheal augmentation

Voice Feminization Surgery

- Feminization (laryngoplasty)
- Vocal folds shortening and retrodisplacement of anterior commissure (VFSRAC)

Chest Surgery

- Breast augmentation

Genital Surgery

- Vaginoplasty
- Clitoral reconstruction
- Laparoscopic peritoneal pull-through flaps with vaginoplasty
- Labial reconstruction; labioplasty
- Monsplasty
- Orchiectomy
- Penectomy
- Penile inversion
- Penile preservation vaginoplasty
- Prolapse repair

- Robotic laparoscopic surgery
- Urethral reconstruction
- Vaginal stenosis repair
- Vulvoplasty

Body Contouring Procedures

- Body feminization surgery

Revision Surgery

- Fistula repair
- Vaginal revision surgery

TRANSMASCULINE FEMALE TO MALE GENDER AFFIRMING SURGERY

These female to male surgeries are for patients who are looking to acquire male characteristics.

Chest Surgery

- Buttonhole
- Double incision (with or without free nipple grafts)
- Fishmouth
- Keyhole
- Mastectomy (“top surgery”)
- Periareolar

Genital Surgery

- Glansplasty
- Laparoscopic hysterectomy
- Laparoscopic ovary removal
- Metoidioplasty
- Monsplasty
- Phalloplasty (performed with microsurgeon)
- Phallus reconstruction
- Robotic laparoscopic surgery
- Scrotal reconstruction
- Scrotoplasty
- Simple and complete metoidioplasty
- Testicular and penile implants
- Urethroplasty
- Urethroplasty/ urethral lengthening
- Vaginectomy

Body Contouring

- Body masculinization

Facial Surgery

- Rhinoplasty
- Revision rhinoplasty
- Chin augmentation

- Forehead/brow augmentation
- Jaw augmentation
- Tracheal augmentation

Genital Surgery Revision

- Fistula repair
- Revision surgery

It should be noted that CommonSpirit’s tax form 990s for [2020](#) and [2019](#) both indicate that CommonSpirit Health provided funds totaling \$2,128,662 to the Saint Francis Memorial Hospital over the course of those two years. What this means is that **Catholic funds are going directly to the very hospital performing these ghastly procedures.**

Bear in mind that all of this is being done through CommonSpirit’s 2019 merge partner, Dignity Health. What’s worse is that Dignity health is doing this in the name of the Catholic Church. On its webpage titled [“Caring Care for LGBTQ+ People and their families,”](#) Dignity Health invokes its founding by Catholic nuns as the impetus behind the work it does to affirm homosexuals and transgenders in their self-proclaimed identities. It says:

“Dignity Health was founded by Catholic sisters deeply committed to compassionate care for all—this commitment is in our DNA.

...

Our commitment to compassionate, non-discriminatory health care is stronger today than ever. To all LGBTQ+ people and their families, we say: we see you, we know you, we care about you. In fact, we are you: we’re proud to say we have thousands of LGBTQ+ employees, in every role, in every region.”

Toward the bottom of this page is a link to another page titled, [“Our Support for Transgender, Non-binary & Gender Expansive People.”](#) On this page, Dignity Health references a [statement](#) describing “services at our California hospitals,” and that “all of our facilities provide a wide range of knowledgeable transgender care,” giving a strong indication that all Dignity Health members are somehow participating in the work of “gender affirmation.” Later down the page, it says:

“The Gender Institute not only **joins our other hospitals in delivering high-quality and affordable transgender health care services**, but also organizes conferences and other training opportunities, to expand and deepen transgender care in the Bay Area and beyond.” (emphasis added)

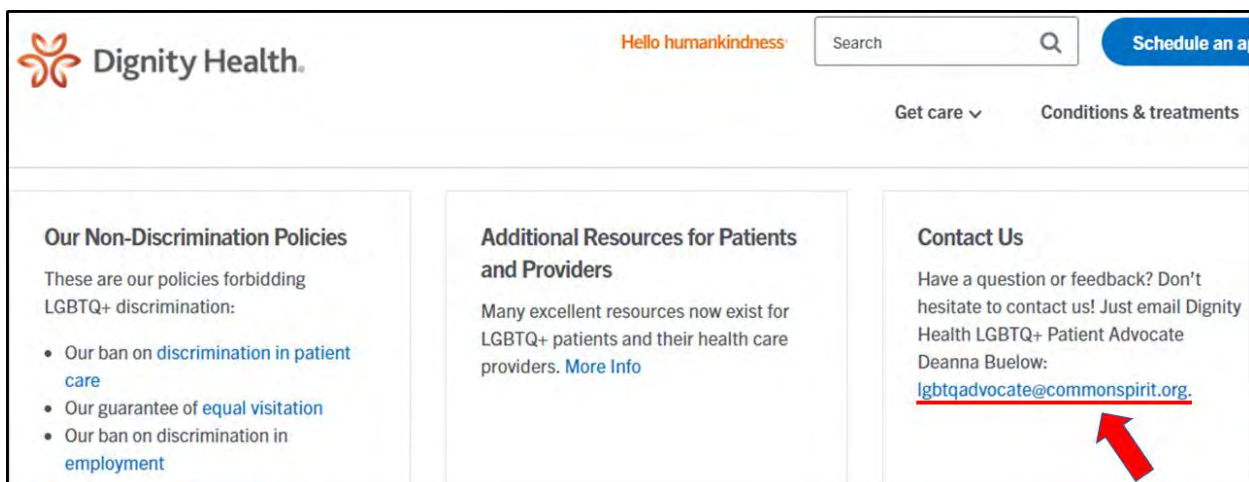
And at the end of this page, Dignity Health states that “We are a proud Platinum Sponsor of the Trans March in San Francisco.”

So, not only is SFMH performing all manner of transgender operations, and all of Dignity Health is somehow involved in performing “transgender services,” but the entire network is a “Platinum Sponsor” of the Trans March in San Francisco. According to the [Trans March sponsorship packet](#) for non-profit organizations (like Dignity health), Platinum Level Sponsorship is \$1,500.

Sponsorship Packet 2022(Non-Profit)

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE	Non- Profit Rate
<p>PLATINUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name/logo featured as Presenting Sponsor in all media, invitations, advertising, fliers, posters, emails, program, and press releases (sponsorship form must be received by Wednesday, May 25, 2022 for print materials). ● Name/logo on Trans March website home page for 1 year. ● Recognition at event by performance stage MCs. ● Space (10' x 10') at the Resource Fair to table at the Trans March (table and booth not provided). There limited spaces at the Resource Fair, not everyone may be accommodated). ● Two (2) Trans March shirts. 	<p><u>\$1,500.00</u> </p>

One important note that needs to be pointed out about Dignity Health’s “Support for Transgender, Non-binary & Gender Expansive People” page is that the “Contact Us” portion provides a CommonSpirit.org email address, showing that this is just as much an operation of CommonSpirit on the whole as it is a Dignity Health operation.



The screenshot shows the Dignity Health website header with the logo, the text "Hello humankindness", a search bar, and a "Schedule an appointment" button. Below the header are three columns: "Our Non-Discrimination Policies", "Additional Resources for Patients and Providers", and "Contact Us". The "Contact Us" section contains the text: "Have a question or feedback? Don't hesitate to contact us! Just email Dignity Health LGBTQ+ Patient Advocate Deanna Buelow: lgbtqadvocate@commonspirit.org". A red arrow points to the email address.

Following the link from this page to Dignity health’s Statement on “[Important Information About Transgender Health Care at Dignity Health](#),” the statement indicates that even though not all services are found at all Dignity Health locations, they are all supportive as a referral network for those seeking transition. The statement says:

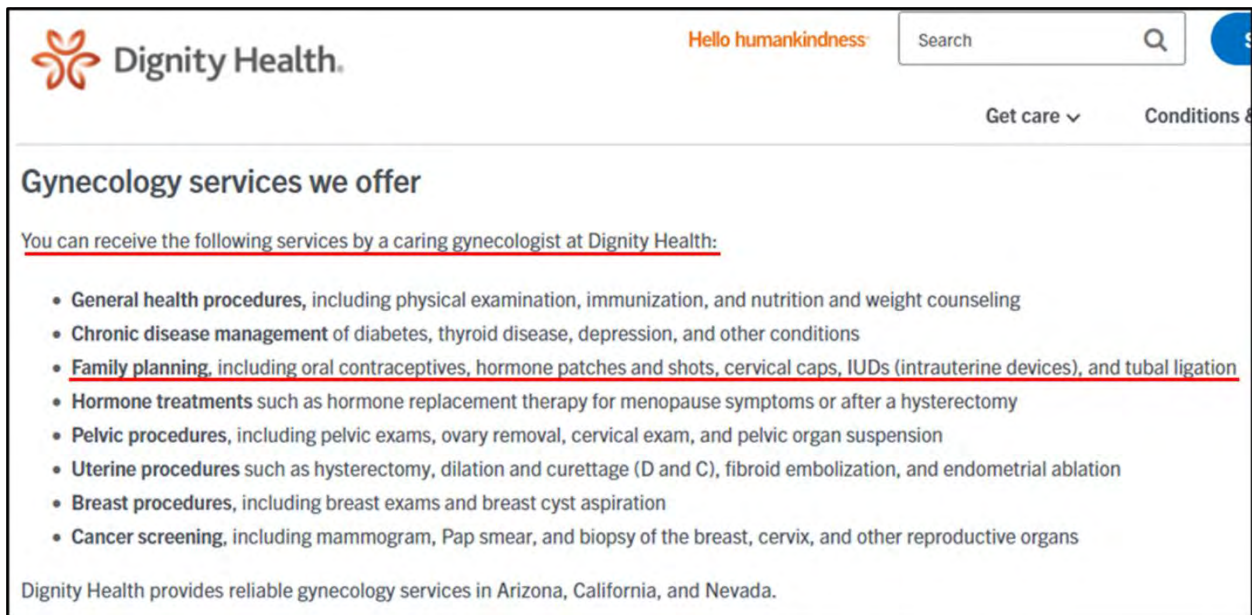
“Our network of care includes, but is not limited to, offerings such as **hormone therapy**, psychological services, **mastectomy, breast augmentation, orchiectomy (surgical removal of testicals), and hysterectomy**, although not all services are available at all facilities.

When a service is not available at a given location, care is transitioned to a provider within reasonable driving distance that offers the desired service. For example, providers are made aware that some sterilizing procedures, including **some surgeries, are not performed at our Catholic facilities** (see list below), and **in these instances providers transition a patient’s care to other providers** within a reasonable distance, including our non-Catholic facilities (see list below). These non-Catholic facilities include Dignity Health’s Saint Francis Hospital in San Francisco, where The Gender Institute has been recognized as a pre-eminent center offering a “best in class” experience in transgender healthcare.”

Dignity Health then lists all of its Catholic and Non-Catholic hospitals. In other words, even the Catholic hospitals in the Dignity health network are required to provide referrals to other member locations that can provide the surgical procedures not provided by the Catholic hospital itself. This is direct, material complicity in the commission of a gravely immoral act.

CommonSpirit Member Dignity Health Provides Contraceptive Services

Following the thread of the various health [services provided by Dignity Health](#), from “Conditions and Treatments,” to “Women’s Services,” to “Gynecology,” we find listed “Family Planning” clearly indicated as one of the services provided. Dignity Health states clearly that this includes the full range of modern contraceptives, including abortifacients.



CommonSpirit Member Virginia Mason Franciscan Health Provides Transgender Surgeries

As indicated in the introduction, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health (VMFH) was acquired by CommonSpirit in January of 2021. As a member of CommonSpirit Health, VMFH says that it is “guided by the [Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services](#) (ERD).” However, upon examining VMFH’s own documents, it is clear that this is not the case.

On the VMFH webpage titled “[Transgender Health](#),” VMFH stated its intention to provide transgender “health care services”:

“Our goal is to provide transgender and non-binary patients with transgender health care services that are evidence-based and have an individualized approach to meet our patient's personal goals and needs. **Virginia Mason Franciscan Health is proud to provide skilled and compassionate health care services** with our multidisciplinary team in a welcoming and supportive environment.”

On the same page, VMFH boasted about the fact that it has been rated as a “Leader” on the HRC Healthcare Equality Index since 2019. Earlier in this report we provided a screenshot of VMFH’s Leadership rating by HRC, indicating that it was providing healthcare coverage of transgender surgery, puberty blockers for children, and hormone treatments as a part of its employee benefits package. Following the link to [“Services we provide”](#) under the heading of “Transgender Health,” VMFH lists the entire spectrum of sex-change procedures from hormones to a wide range of surgical procedures, just like the Saint Francis Memorial Hospital of Dignity Health. Under “Primary Care” at the top of the page, VMFH listed:

- Gender-affirming hormone therapy, both initiation and management.

And that’s just the beginning. Under “Pediatric Primary Care,” VMFH listed:

- Puberty blockers (ways to stop puberty hormones)
- Gender-affirming hormone therapy, both initiation and management

Under “Facial plastic surgery” are listed:

- **Facial brow feminization or masculinization.** Forehead contouring is a surgical procedure that reduces and contours the forehead (frontal sinus setback) to create a more feminine appearance, or to add contour for a more masculine appearance. Brow lift is a surgery that raises and shapes the eyebrows into a more feminine position on the face and helps to eliminate wrinkles on the forehead and frown lines between the eyebrows and around the eyes. This is often performed in conjunction with or as part of a contouring procedure for both bone and soft tissue reconstruction.
- Jaw contouring is a surgical procedure that reduces the edge of the jaw bone and the muscles along the jaw to provide a smoother, **rounder jawline and a more feminine appearance, or to add volume and angularity for a more masculine appearance.**
- Face and neck lift is a surgical procedure that address the underlying facial muscle and tissue to lift and provide a natural transition, **sometimes combined with other gender-affirming surgeries,** particularly along the jaw line to redrape the skin over the altered jaw and neck.

Under “Voice transformation” it says:

- Voice feminization or masculinization therapy is a service to help **adapt one's voice and communication patterns to be congruent with the gender identity that reflects one's sense of self.** Voice therapy does not involve laryngostroboscopy (an examination of the vocal folds).

Under “Gynecology,” VMFH states that it provides both contraception and surgical sterilization.

Under “Plastic and reconstructive surgery,” VMFH provides:

- Chest surgery/top surgery—a gender-affirming, masculinizing surgery that removes breast tissue and forms remaining tissue to create a more masculine appearance.
- Body contouring procedures, including liposuction and tummy tuck

Under “Urology,” VMFH indicates that it provides:

- Orchiectomy—a surgical procedure that removes the testicles

Under “Other non-surgical cosmetic procedures,” VMFH says:

- To help integrate our surgical care options and capture your authentic gender expression, we have a strong awareness of the aesthetic qualities associated with gender, and offer additional non-surgical options.
 - Dermal fillers, Botox and Kybella
 - Laser hair removal

And finally, under “Additional information,” VMFH says the following:

- What is gender-affirming hormone therapy?
 - Feminizing hormone therapy is used to help develop the female secondary sex characteristics and suppress the male secondary sex characteristics.
 - Masculinizing hormone therapy is used to help develop the male secondary sex characteristics and suppress the female secondary sex characteristics.

Bear in mind that all of these listed items are stated as “services” offered by VMFH as a member of CommonSpirit Health, and after claiming that VMFH is following the Catholic and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. Even more abominable is the admission VMFH makes with regard to its employment of puberty blockers on young children. On VMFH’s [“Transgender Health FAQs,”](#) is the question, “What ages do you see?” The response is:

“In most circumstances, our providers see patients 18 years of age and older. Our pediatricians do see patients under the age of 18.”

In fact, the question regarding “treatment plans” implies establishing a plan for full transition beginning with prepubescent children.

Virginia Mason Franciscan Health Hello humankindness Get care Locations Our services Patient + visit

What does a treatment plan look like?

The treatment plan for each patient is individualized based on the needs and preferences of the patient and family or guardians. The clinic's treatments are consistent with guidelines developed by professional societies, including the [World Professional Association for Transgender Health](#) (WPATH) and specific specialty societies.

In developing a treatment plan, the team considers:

- The patient's goals
- The patient's age and stage of pubertal development
- The patient's and family's readiness for next steps
- Risks and benefits of treatment

The team seeks agreement with the patient, family or guardians, and the patient's therapist.

And to confirm that such services are being provided by VMFH hospitals, clicking the link to [“Our Transgender Health Care Team”](#) leads to a page of 31 physicians at different VMFH locations who are indicated as providing “transgender health care services.”

The following VMFH locations list physicians who provide “transgender health care services” (See Appendix on page 59 for visual proof of what was found on that page):

- Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center
- Virginia Mason Bainbridge Island Medical Center
- Franciscan Medical Clinic - Spanaway
- Virginia Mason Federal Way Medical Center
- CHI Franciscan Family Medicine Clinic
- Virginia Mason Lynnwood Medical Center
- Franciscan Medical Clinic - Westwood
- Virginia Mason Franciscan Health Medical Pavilion
- Virginia Mason University Village Medical Center
- Franciscan Women's Health Associates - Burien
- Franciscan Medical Clinic - Bremerton

But transgender “services” aren’t the only grave moral issues provided by VMFH. On the [FAQ page](#) for VMFH’s Northwest Washington Family Medicine Residency, it states that its “parent organization” (CommonSpirit) changed the name of its hospital to the St. Michael Medical Center in 2020 as a more “fitting name” because, “St. Michael is considered a champion of justice, a healer of the sick, and the guardian of the Church.” The question following this indicates that procedures provided at St. Michael’s include IUD insertion and vasectomies. And the question following this states that despite falling under the parent organization CommonSpirit, St. Michael Medical Center “offers a wide spectrum of reproductive health services.”

CommonSpirit Facilities Distributing Contraception and Performing Abortions

VMFH’s page indicating [“Select Policies”](#) for its Catholic hospitals provides links to all of the “reproductive health services” provided by each hospital, and in each instance, this includes all forms of contraception, including abortifacients.

Stating that “These policies cover St. Joseph Medical Center, St. Anthony Hospital, St. Clare Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, St. Elizabeth Hospital, St. Michael Medical Center, St. Anne Hospital and Rehabilitation Hospital,” the Select Policies page has a section on “reproductive Health,” indicating that:

“Virginia Mason Franciscan Health does not provide elective abortions. Medically necessary care for pregnant women is always provided, even if it results in the termination of a pregnancy.”

It then provides a list of links to the “Hospital Reproductive Services” provided by each of the identified Catholic hospitals. It says:

Policy: Reproductive Health Care

It is the policy of Virginia Mason Franciscan Health that all services rendered in our facilities shall be supportive of life. Virginia Mason Franciscan Health does not provide elective abortions. Medically necessary care for pregnant women is always provided, even if it results in the termination of a pregnancy.

- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Anne Hospital](#)
- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Anthony Hospital](#)
- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Clare Hospital](#)
- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Elizabeth Hospital](#)
- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Francis Hospital](#)
- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Joseph Medical Center](#)
- [Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Michael Medical Center](#)
- [Reproductive Healthcare Policy](#)

The following pages provide screenshots from the documented “Hospital Reproductive Health Services” of each of the identified Catholic hospitals belonging to VMFH. Of particular note is that each indicates the provision of all forms of contraception, in direct contravention with Catholic moral teaching and the ERDs.

Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Anne Hospital (Highline Medical Center)

Hospital Reproductive Health Services		
<p>In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.</p>		
Hospital name: <u>Highline Medical Center</u>		
Physical address: 16251 Sylvester Rd SW		
City: Burien	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98166
Hospital contact: Matt Miller		Contact phone #: 253-680-8881
<p>An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.</p>		
The following reproductive health services are generally available at the above listed hospital:		
<p>Abortion services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Medication abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Referrals for abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Surgical abortion</p> <p>Contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Birth control: provision of the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved methods including intrauterine devices, pills, rings, patches, implants, etc.</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contraceptive counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital pharmacy dispenses contraception</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal of contraceptive devices</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tubal ligations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Vasectomies</p> <p>Emergency contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - sexual assault</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - no sexual assault</p> <p>Infertility services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counseling</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infertility testing and diagnosis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infertility treatments including but not limited to in vitro fertilization</p>	<p>Other related services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) treatment</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), prescriptions, and related counseling</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treatment of miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies</p> <p>Pregnancy-related services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counseling</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Genetic testing</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Labor and delivery</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neonatal intensive care unit</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prenatal care</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postnatal care</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ultrasound</p> <p>Comments; limitations on services; other services</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>o Some services listed on this form may be provided when medically indicated.</p> <p>o Operations, treatments, and medications that have as their direct purpose the cure of a proportionately serious pathological condition of a pregnant woman (patient) are permitted when they cannot be safely postponed until the unborn child is viable, even if the result is the death of the unborn child.</p> </div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments on next page</p>	

Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Anthony Hospital

Hospital Reproductive Health Services				
<p>In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.</p>				
Hospital name: <u>St Anthony Hospital</u>				
Physical address: 11511 Canterwood Blvd				
City: Gig Harbor	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98332		
Hospital contact: Matt Miller		Contact phone #: 253-680-8881		
<p>An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.</p>				
The following reproductive health services are generally available at the above listed hospital:				
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Abortion services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Medication abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Referrals for abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Surgical abortion</p> <p>Contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birth control: provision of the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved methods <u>including intrauterine devices, pills, rings, patches, implants, etc.</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contraceptive counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital pharmacy dispenses contraception</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal of contraceptive devices</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tubal ligations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Vasectomies</p> <p>Emergency contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - sexual assault</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - no sexual assault</p> <p>Infertility services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infertility testing and diagnosis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infertility treatments including but not limited to in vitro fertilization</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; 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Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Clare Hospital

Hospital Reproductive Health Services		
<p>In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.</p>		
Hospital name: <u>St Clare Hospital</u>		
Physical address: 113015 Bridgeport Way SW		
City: Lakewood	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98499
Hospital contact: Matt Miller		Contact phone #: 253-680-8881
<p>An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.</p>		
The following reproductive health services are generally available at the above listed hospital:		
<p>Abortion services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Medication abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Referrals for abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Surgical abortion</p> <p>Contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birth control: <u>provision of the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved methods including intrauterine devices, pills, rings, patches, implants, etc.</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contraceptive counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital pharmacy dispenses contraception</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal of contraceptive devices</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tubal ligations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Vasectomies</p> <p>Emergency contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - sexual assault</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - no sexual assault</p> <p>Infertility services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infertility testing and diagnosis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infertility treatments including but not limited to in vitro fertilization</p>	<p>Other related services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) treatment</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), prescriptions, and related counseling</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treatment of miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies</p> <p>Pregnancy-related services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Genetic testing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Labor and delivery</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Neonatal intensive care unit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Prenatal care</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Postnatal care</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ultrasound</p> <p>Comments; limitations on services; other services</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>This hospital does not have a labor & delivery unit. o Some services listed on this form may be provided when medically indicated. o Operations, treatments, and medications that have as their direct purpose the cure of a proportionately serious pathological condition of a pregnant woman (patient) are permitted when</p> </div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments on next page</p>	

Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Elizabeth Hospital

Hospital Reproductive Health Services		
<p>In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.</p>		
Hospital name: <u>St. Elizabeth Hospital</u>		
Physical address: 1455 Battersby Avenue		
City: Enumclaw	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98022
Hospital contact: Matt Miller	Contact phone #: 253-680-8881	
<p>An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.</p>		
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Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Francis Hospital

Hospital Reproductive Health Services				
In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.				
Hospital name: <u>St. Francis Hospital</u>				
Physical address: 34515 9th Ave South				
City: Federal Way	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98003		
Hospital contact: Matt Miller	Contact phone #: 253-680-8881			
An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.				
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Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Joseph Medical Center

Hospital Reproductive Health Services				
In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.				
Hospital name: <u>St. Joseph Medical Center</u>				
Physical address: 1717 So J Street				
City: Tacoma	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98405		
Hospital contact: Matt Miller		Contact phone #: 253-680-8881		
An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.				
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[Hospital Reproductive Health Services - St. Michael Medical Center](#)

Hospital Reproductive Health Services				
<p>In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.</p>				
Hospital name: <u>Harrison Medical Center</u>				
Physical address: 1800 NW Myhre Rd				
City: Silverdale	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98383		
Hospital contact: Matt Miller		Contact phone #: 253-680-8881		
<p>An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.</p>				
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<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Abortion services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Medication abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Referrals for abortion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Surgical abortion</p> <p>Contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Birth control: provision of the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved methods including intrauterine devices, pills, rings, patches, implants, etc.</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contraceptive counseling</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital pharmacy dispenses contraception</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Removal of contraceptive devices</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Tubal ligations</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Vasectomies</u></p> <p>Emergency contraception services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - sexual assault</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Emergency contraception - no sexual assault</p> <p>Infertility services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counseling</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infertility testing and diagnosis</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infertility treatments including but not limited to in vitro fertilization</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; 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The [Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services](#) states in directives 52 and 53 (emphasis added):

52. **Catholic health institutions may not promote or condone contraceptive practices** but should provide, for married couples and the medical staff who counsel them, instruction both about the Church’s teaching on responsible parenthood and in methods of natural family planning.

53. **Direct sterilization of either men or women, whether permanent or temporary, is not permitted in a Catholic health care institution.** Procedures that induce sterility are permitted when their direct effect is the cure or alleviation of a present and serious pathology and a simpler treatment is not available.

VMFH is in clear violation of these two directives. And despite the claim on VMFH’s website regarding “Reproductive Policies” that “Virginia Mason Franciscan Health does not provide elective abortions,” its own Hospital Reproductive Services sheet for the Virginia Mason Medical Center (dated 11 May 2022) indicates that it provides medical and surgical abortions, it refers for abortions, it provides the full spectrum of contraception (even from its own pharmacy), surgical sterilization, emergency contraception even without a claim of sexual assault, and “transgender services.”

Hospital Reproductive Health Services - Virginia Mason medical Center

Hospital Reproductive Health Services		
<p>In accordance with 2SSB 5602 (Laws of 2019), the purpose of this form is to provide the public with specific information about which reproductive health services are and are not generally available at each hospital. Please contact the hospital directly if you have questions about services that are available.</p>		
Hospital name: <u>Virginia Mason Medical Center</u>		
Physical address: 1100 Ninth Avenue		
City: Seattle	State: WA	ZIP Code: 98101
Hospital contact: Katerie Chapman	Contact phone #: 206.341.1208	
<p>An acute care hospital may not be the appropriate setting for all reproductive health services listed below. Some reproductive services are most appropriately available in outpatient settings such as a physician office or clinic, depending on the specific patient circumstances.</p>		
The following reproductive health services are generally available at the above listed hospital:		
<p>Abortion services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Medication abortion ✓ Referrals for abortion ✓ Surgical abortion <p>Contraception services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Birth control: provision of the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved methods including intrauterine devices, pills, rings, patches, implants, etc. ✓ Contraceptive counseling ✓ Hospital pharmacy dispenses contraception ✓ Removal of contraceptive devices ✓ Tubal ligations ✓ Vasectomies <p>Emergency contraception services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Emergency contraception - sexual assault ✓ Emergency contraception - no sexual assault <p>Infertility services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Counseling ✓ Infertility testing and diagnosis <input type="checkbox"/> Infertility treatments including but not limited to in vitro fertilization 	<p>Other related services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing ✓ Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) treatment ✓ Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), prescriptions, and related counseling ✓ Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment ✓ Treatment of miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies <p>Pregnancy-related services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Counseling ✓ Genetic testing ✓ Labor and delivery ✓ Neonatal intensive care unit ✓ Prenatal care ✓ Postnatal care ✓ Ultrasound 	<p>Comments; limitations on services; other services</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Transgender Services. Some services listed on this form may be provided when medically indicated.</p> </div> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments on next page</p>
<p>Signed by: <u>KATERIE CHAPMAN</u> PRESIDENT, VIRGINIA MASON MEDICAL CENTER</p>		<p>Date (mm/dd/yyyy) <u>05/11/2022</u></p>

Conclusion

CommonSpirit claims to be the largest Catholic healthcare Network in America. It derives its Catholic identity through the sponsorship of a “canonical person,” called the Catholic Health Care Federation, which receives its approbation from the Vatican’s Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. In short, its Catholic identity is provided directly from the Vatican.

CommonSpirit came into existence in 2019 through the merging of Catholic Health Initiatives and Dignity Health. Since that time, CommonSpirit has acquired several other healthcare networks, including Virginia Mason Franciscan Health. All of CommonSpirit’s literature, its promotional materials, and its policy statements assert that it is a “Catholic” organization bound to the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic health Care Services.

Despite all of its posturing about being a Catholic healthcare organization, the simple fact of the matter is that there is nothing Catholic about it, and it is operating in direct contravention of even the most basic notions of medical ethics derived in the Hippocratic Oath to “First, do no harm.” As was found in this report, hospitals belonging to CommonSpirit Health are engaged in the following gravely immoral and unethical practices:







- Providing puberty blockers to children for the purpose of “affirming” their gender identities.
- Providing hormone treatments to patients suffering gender dysphoria for the purpose of “affirming” gender identity.
- Performing surgical operations to remove women’s breasts and surgically alter their genitals to resemble male genitals.
- Performing surgical operations to implant false breasts in men and surgically alter their genitals to resemble female genitals.
- Performing abortions.
- Providing all manner of contraceptives, including abortifacients.
- Performing surgical sterilizations.








Additionally, CommonSpirit employee health care benefits plans cover employees and their dependents for all of the above, with the exception of elective abortion. And concomitant with all of this is the fact that CommonSpirit and its affiliates are deeply committed to the promotion and celebration of homosexual and transgender ideologies, which are inimical to Catholic moral teachings.








The very notion that CommonSpirit is able to maintain an identity as a “Catholic” organization defies every rule of logic and sound Christian principles. Given everything contained in this report, CommonSpirit should be completely stripped of its Catholic identity along with all of its Catholic hospital members named in this report. And while that is happening, bishops should lead their Catholic flocks in public acts of penance and reparation for the demonic activities engaged in by CommonSpirit and its affiliates. God, have mercy on us!








Appendix





The following VMFH physicians and locations engaging in “Transgender Health” indicated on page 48 are as follows.

 <p>Marisa Dahlman, MD Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Gynecology Transgender Health Gynecological Surgeon 4.8 (67) Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6191 Get directions</p>
 <p>Amy Portacci, DO Family Medicine Sports Medicine Transgender Health 4.7 (179) Offers video visits Online scheduling Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations Virginia Mason Franciscan Health Medical Pavilion - Kraken Community Iceplex at Northgate 10601 5th Avenue NE Suite 201 West, Seattle, WA 98125 (206) 287-6400 Get directions</p>
 <p>Grace Lee, MD Endocrinology Transgender Health 4.8 (91) Offers video visits Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6624 Get directions</p>
 <p>Andrew Lingbloom, PA-C Internal Medicine Transgender Health 4.8 (124) Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (866) 832-6633 Get directions</p>
 <p>Jillian Worth, MD Family Medicine Transgender Health 4.9 (222) Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations Virginia Mason Bainbridge Island Medical Center 1344 Wintergreen Lane NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 (206) 842-5632 Get directions</p>
 <p>Carol Jia, MD Internal Medicine Transgender Health 4.6 (208) Online scheduling Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations Virginia Mason Lynnwood Medical Center 19116 33rd Avenue West, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (425) 712-7900 Get directions</p>

	<p>Michael Watson, MD</p> <p>Family Medicine Family Medicine with Obstetrics</p> <p>Addiction Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>★ ★ ★ ★ ★ No ratings</p> <p>Offers video visits Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations</p> <p>CHI Franciscan Family Medicine Clinic 4207 Kitsap Way, Bremerton, WA 98312 (360) 415-1080</p> <p>Get directions</p>
	<p>Hasan Abdessamad, MD, FRCSC, FACOG</p> <p>Gynecological Surgeon Gynecology</p> <p>Obstetrics Transgender Health</p> <p>★★★★★ 4.8 (35)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations</p> <p>Franciscan Women's Health Associates - Burlen 16045 First Avenue South 2nd Floor, Buriel, WA 98148 (206) 965-4200</p> <p>Get directions</p>
	<p>Emily Speca, ARNP</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>Medical Weight Loss Obesity Medicine</p> <p>★★★★★ 4.8 (104)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 583-2299</p> <p>Get directions</p>
	<p>Casey Kernan, DO</p> <p>Family Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>★★★★★ 4.8 (52)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Franciscan Medical Clinic - Bremerton 2601 Cherry Avenue Suite 315, Bremerton, WA 98310 (360) 479-2360</p> <p>Get directions</p>
	<p>Danielle Norris, ARNP</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>★★★★★ 4.8 (119)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Federal Way Medical Center 33501 First Way S., Federal Way, WA 98003 (253) 838-2400</p> <p>Get directions</p>
	<p>Clara Eickhoff, ARNP</p> <p>Family Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>★★★★★ 4.6 (82)</p> <p>Online scheduling Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Franciscan Medical Clinic - Spanaway 144 169th Street South, Spanaway, WA 98387 (253) 538-4660</p> <p>Get directions</p>
	<p>Michael Tomberg, MD</p> <p>Family Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>★★★★★ 4.8 (266)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Bainbridge Island Medical Center 1344 Wintergreen Lane NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 (206) 842-5632</p> <p>Get directions</p>

	<p>Una Lee, MD</p> <p>Urogynecology Urology</p> <p>Transgender Health</p> <p>4.5 (165)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations View more</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6772 Get directions</p>
	<p>Twiggy Lee, MD</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.8 (100)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason University Village Medical Center 2671 Northeast 46th Street, Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 525-8000 Get directions</p>
	<p>Garrett Thompson, MD</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.7 (82)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason University Village Medical Center 2671 Northeast 46th Street, Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 525-8000 Get directions</p>
	<p>Kriti Choudhary, MD</p> <p>Family Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.3 (67)</p> <p>Online scheduling Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Franciscan Medical Clinic - Westwood 2511 Southwest Trenton Street, Seattle, WA 98106 (206) 763-5057 Get directions</p>
	<p>Kevin Means, MD</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.7 (191)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (866) 832-6633 Get directions</p>
	<p>Elizabeth Bolen, MD</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.9 (280)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (866) 832-6633 Get directions</p>
	<p>Christine Lee, MD</p> <p>Endocrinology Transgender Health</p> <p>4.9 (181)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6624 Get directions</p>

 <p>Carmen Dittman, MD</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.7 (85)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Federal Way Medical Center 33501 First Way S., Federal Way, WA 98003 (253) 838-2400</p> <p>Get directions</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p>
 <p>Michelle Lam, MD, MPH, FACP</p> <p>Internal Medicine Transgender Health</p> <p>4.7 (119)</p> <p>Offers video visits Online scheduling Not accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (866) 832-6633</p> <p>Get directions</p>	
 <p>Christine Lee, MD</p> <p>Endocrinology Transgender Health</p> <p>4.9 (181)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6624</p> <p>Get directions</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p>
 <p>Ksenija Stefanovic, MD</p> <p>Urology Transgender Health</p> <p>4.8 (329)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6772</p> <p>Get directions</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p>
 <p>David Aboulafia, MD</p> <p>Hematology & Medical Oncology Transgender Health</p> <p>4.8 (385)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6193</p> <p>Get directions</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p>
 <p>Alvaro Lucioni, MD</p> <p>Urogynecology Urology Transgender Health</p> <p>4.8 (229)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6772</p> <p>Get directions</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>View more</p>
 <p>Jonathan Stoehr, MD</p> <p>Endocrinology Transgender Health</p> <p>4.8 (208)</p> <p>Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6624</p> <p>Get directions</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>View more</p>

 <p>Amish Dave, MD Rheumatology Transgender Health 4.7 (208) Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations View more</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6824 Get directions</p>
 <p>Michael Nuara, MD Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Transgender Health 4.8 (45) Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 341-0895 Get directions</p>
 <p>Alison Hirst, SLP Speech Therapy Transgender Health 4.7 (55) Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6374 Get directions</p>
 <p>Alexandra Schmidek, MD Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Transgender Health 4.7 (54) Offers video visits Accepting new patients</p>	<p>Call to schedule an appointment</p> <p>Locations</p> <p>Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center 1100 Ninth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 223-6831 Get directions</p>