

# RWJ Barnabas Health, Inc.

Locations: New Jersey (HQ)

Industries: Health Care Equipment and Services

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

## DESCRIPTION:

RWJ Barnabas Health is High Risk. The company yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company implements identity-based policies that replace merit, excellence, and integrity with preferential treatment and outcomes. RWJ Barnabas Health embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues. This approach fails to safeguard free exercise, free speech, and free enterprise.

## Corporate Weaponization

**Has canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries.** High Risk

*RWJ Barnabas Health fired six employees in 2021 for refusing to get vaccinated for COVID-19 (1)(2).*

**Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs.** Lower Risk

*RWJ Barnabas Health does not discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or beliefs. The company focuses on patient care and the health of New Jersey residents (1)(2).*

**Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are ideological in nature.** High Risk

*RWJ Barnabas Health trains 90% of its employees on LGBTQ+ sensitivity (1). The company does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (2).*

## Corporate Governance and Public Policy

**Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression.** High Risk

*RWJ Barnabas Health, Inc. has been awarded by the HRC as an "LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader" and has ten facilities that have been accredited by the Human Rights Campaign as "Leaders in LGBTQ Healthcare Equality" (1)(2). The company also launched the*

Babs Siperstein PROUD Center which offers specialized primary care services to the LGBTQ+ community (3). The company's former CEO, Barry H. Ostrowsky, signed the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion pledge, which includes a commitment to promote DEI through bias education training in the workplace, strategize on DEI programs/initiatives with other signatories, and engage boards of directors when developing and evaluating DEI strategies (4)(5). The company also implemented "new fields in our registration process, asking one's preferred name, sex assigned at birth, and current gender at the point of entry" (6). Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset, an RWJBarnabas Health facility, renamed its PROUD Family Health in memory of transgender activist Barbra "Babs" Casbar Siperstein in 2019 (7). The company was a signatory of the Health Sector Pledge, committing itself to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. Signatories were expected to develop and release a climate resilience plan and appoint a corporate executive to oversee its implementation (8).

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**Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. Medium Risk**

RWJ Barnabas Health is a coalition member of OneTen, appearing to prioritize diversity over merit in its hiring (1)(2)(3). Otherwise, there are no publicly known cases of the company using corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies (4).

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**Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. N/A**

RWJ Barnabas Health does not operate a PAC or report on its lobbying at this time (1)(2)(3).

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