



## THIS WEEK! Virtual Human Trafficking Lobby Day

**When:** Wednesday, January 19 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM CT

**Where:** Zoom Meeting

[RSVP Here](#)

Please join us for an important conversation on Human Trafficking in recognition of Human Trafficking Awareness month.

This event is presented by Missouri State Senator Brian Williams, Missouri Attorney General Human Trafficking Task Force, and the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis.

Featuring Panelists:

- Cpl. Kimberly Davis, Missouri State Highway Patrol
- Sarah Bendtsen Diedhiou, Shared Hope
- Kaitlynn Donnelly, Platte County Prosecuting Attorney
- Amos N. Guiora, Professor of Law, SJ Quinney College of Law, University of Utah
- Christine McDonald, Survivor, Advocate
- Linda McQuary, Missouri Coalition Against Trafficking and Exploitation (CATE)
- Heidi Olson, SANE Program Coordinator, Children's Mercy Hospital

Please [click here](#) to RSVP and receive your login information.



## THIS WEEK! January Lunch & Learn: Human Trafficking in the Covid Era and Beyond



Linda McQuary, MSW, LCSW



Thursday, January 20, 2022

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

**When:** Thursday, January 20 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT

**Where:** Zoom Meeting

[RSVP Here](#)

NCJWSTL is honored to welcome Linda McQuary, MSW, LCSW, Coalition Director of the Missouri Coalition Against Trafficking and Exploitation (CATE), to our January Lunch and Learn.

***In honor of Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Linda will discuss how to prevent and respond to human trafficking during the COVID era and beyond.***

McQuary is responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluation activities associated with CATE. She holds a Master of Social Work from St. Louis University. She began her career working to protect child abuse victims in both rural and urban areas of Missouri. Her passion for protecting vulnerable populations transitioned from direct services to a trauma-informed leadership position, building, training, and facilitating multidisciplinary teams involved in the investigation, prosecution, and service provision of child abuse victims. Most children served by these multidisciplinary teams experienced sexual abuse, including victims of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Please [click here](#) to RSVP and receive your login information. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org).

## Honor Repro Shabbat 2022 at Home or on Zoom!



**When:** Friday, January 28 and Saturday, January 29

**Where:** Zoom Meeting

[RSVP Here](#)

Judaism not only permits abortion but even requires it when life is at stake. And, of course, *pikuach nefesh* – preserving the life of the pregnant person – and, more broadly, building a just society are ultimate Jewish concerns. We must not remain idle while barriers to health care place anyone's health, well-being, autonomy, or economic security at risk. Reproductive freedom is about gender justice, racial justice, economic justice, and so much more.

**We must get educated and we must get activated.**

Repro Shabbat is an opportunity to celebrate the critical importance of reproductive health access, reproductive rights, and reproductive justice with friends, family, or other communities – in person or gathered via Zoom – and to learn more about Judaism's approach to these issues. National Council of Jewish Women is mobilizing in partnership with synagogues, JCC's and more all on the same weekend to explore these themes. Over 500 community-based events will be taking place across the country.

Please [click here](#) to RSVP. After you register, we will send you a variety of resources that you can use that Shabbat or that week, and you can find the way to make Repro Shabbat your own.

## Running for Office 101 with the National Women's Political Caucus

**When:** Saturday, January 29 | 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM CT



**Where:** Flynn Park Elementary | 7220 Waterman Ave.  
[RSVP Here](#)

Have you ever been interested in running for political office? Then this is the event for you!

More than ever, we need to increase women's participation in the political process. Women represent 20% of Congress, 25% of state legislature seats, and 12% of governorships. We hold 24% of statewide elected offices, such as attorney general and lieutenant governor. While we have proven that we can raise money and win elections at comparable, if not higher, rates than men, too few women run for office at all. When women run,

women win!

**Check-in starts at 8:30 AM CT and the program will begin promptly at 9:00 AM CT. Bagels, coffee, and a light lunch will be provided. The all-inclusive cost is only \$25.00 per person.**

Please [click here](#) to register for the event. COVID-19 Vaccines required to participate or a negative COVID-19 test result within 48 hours of the training. Masks are required at all times, except to eat and drink.

## Urge Your Legislators to Prioritize Contraceptive Equity



If 2021 taught us anything, it's that **birth control is not a bargaining chip** – Missouri residents across the political spectrum strongly support greater access to contraception. **That's why we're going on the offense this session.**

According to a new public opinion poll conducted by *The Right Time initiative*, 76% of Missourians believe the state legislature should increase access to birth control. [We must let our lawmakers know that](#)

[we are in the 76%.](#)

We are asking our elected officials to pass the following legislation:

- Annual-Supply Birth Control (an NCJWSTL bill);
- Pharmacist-Dispensing of Birth Control; and
- The Compassionate Assistance for Rape Emergencies (CARE) Act.

When signed into law, these bills will significantly increase access to contraception, improving health equity and reproductive health outcomes.

[Click here](#) to sign the petition urging your legislators to prioritize contraceptive equity this session.

## Take Action: Join the A-List

**Now more than ever you will want to make sure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2022!**

Join us as we stand together and speak out about the issues that matter most.

**Together we can make a difference!**

A-List sponsorship ads sustain our collaborative efforts to educate the community and elected officials about issues integral to our mission. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during



2022.

- **\$18** includes your name in the ad.
- **\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
- **\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color and includes a special gift.

[Click here](#) to see the **A-List flyer**.

[Click here](#) to see the **latest A-List Ad**.

Join the A-list [here](#).

## Interesting Reading



Crisis pregnancy centers, the anti-abortion organizations that attempt to lure mostly poor people of color with unwanted pregnancies to their premises and dissuade them from having abortions, are a proven danger to public health, according to a new study by The Alliance: State Advocates for Women's Rights and Gender Equality.

[Click here](#) to read Kylie Cheung's article from Jezebel, "Crisis Pregnancy Centers Are Spying on Pregnant People, New Study Says."

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