



**ADVOCACY  
IN ACTION**

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

## February Lunch & Learn: Current State of Immigration with Javad M. Khazaeli



**Thursday, February 17, 2022  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT**

*Javad M. Khazaeli*

**When:** Thursday, February 17 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT

**Where:** Zoom Meeting

[RSVP Here](#)

Immigration has been a touchstone of the U.S. political debate for decades, as policymakers have weighed economic, security, and humanitarian concerns. Congress has been unable to reach an agreement on comprehensive immigration reform for years, and in the meantime, people are suffering. NCJWSTL has always been at the forefront of immigration rights advocacy, and we must always strive to do more.

For our February Lunch and Learn, we are thrilled to welcome Javad M. Khazaeli, the Co-Founder of Khazaeli Wyrsh, LLC, a St. Louis-based law firm that focuses on civil rights, immigration, and litigation. In 2021, the Riverfront Times chose Javad as the Best Attorney in St. Louis. In 2017, St. Louis University awarded Javad and his firm the Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Service award. Javad is the only private bar attorney in America that has served in senior immigration positions in both the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Labor. For nearly a decade, he was assigned to the Department of Justice and then the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, National Security Law Division. His writings have been featured in the New York Times, Washington Post, and others, and his life

story was featured on the 11:FS-Connection Interrupted technology podcast, Javad Khazaeli, The Immigrant's Story.

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).

## Volunteer for the St. Francis Xavier College Church Photo ID Program



**When:** Tuesdays from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM (*multiple shifts available*)

**Where:** St. Francis Xavier College Church | 3628 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108

[Click here to sign up to volunteer](#)

NCJWSTL has been working in coalition with St. Francis Xavier College Church for several years as an advocacy partner fighting repressive voter ID laws in Missouri. While we focus on the legislative work, they provide assistance with Missouri State ID cards and birth certificates from any state to people with low incomes and limited resources.

**There are gaps in social services as well as systemic disparities in the St. Louis area. St. Francis partners with our outreach programs to fill these gaps and moderate the effects of systemic disparities.** Many individuals experiencing homelessness and being released from prison must first overcome the obstacle of not having a state ID or Birth Certificate in order to take steps to be independent and self-sufficient.

*If you are looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity that will truly make a difference, this just might be the one for you.*

Please [click here](#) to sign up to volunteer. [Click here](#) to watch their training video. For more information about the program, please [click here](#).

## Urge Congress to Enact Historic Housing Investments

With the House's approval on November 19, Congress is one step closer to enacting the **Build Back Better Act** with historic investments in affordable homes. The bill now turns to the Senate where changes are expected. Once approved, the House will have to vote a final time.

This legislation includes the following robust funding for the campaign's top priorities:

- \$25 billion in rental assistance,
- \$65 billion to preserve public housing, and
- \$15 billion for the national Housing Trust Fund



If passed, this will be the most substantial federal investment in quality, stable, affordable homes for our nation's lowest-income people EVER.

[Click here](#) to see a full overview of the funding and why it matters.

[Click here](#) and urge Congress to quickly enact the Build Back Better Act with these historic investments in affordable homes.

## Urge Your Lawmakers: Support the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA)

The Missouri legislature has filed almost

**ABORTION RIGHTS ARE UNDER ATTACK**

**CALL YOUR LAWMAKERS NOW**

**888-481-3868**

The Women's Health Protection Act, a federal bill introduced in the House and Senate, would safeguard access to high-quality care and secure our constitutional rights by protecting patients and providers from this type of dangerous political interference no matter where you live.

National Council of Jewish Women NCJW

[two dozen bills](#) so far this session that would put abortion out of reach for the vast majority of people in our state.

The [Women's Health Protection Act \(WHPA\)](#) would safeguard access to high-quality care and secure constitutional rights by protecting patients and providers from this dangerous political interference no matter where someone lives.

*Equal access to abortion nationwide will allow individuals to achieve their social and economic goals, promote reproductive and moral autonomy, and the right to determine their own lives.*

**[We call on Congress](#) to pass WHPA to protect access to abortion and to help us build a society where all women, children, and families can thrive in our communities with dignity.**

[Click here](#) and urge your lawmakers to support the WHPA today!

## 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



The Jewish community knows how to stand up for dignity, justice, and the health of those we love, including those who are strangers among us. We've done it before, and we must do it again. The time is now for us to stand up for abortion rights.

[Click here](#) to read *Barbara Dobkin's powerful article from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "Jewish women are leaders on abortion rights. But they can't do it*

*alone.*"

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