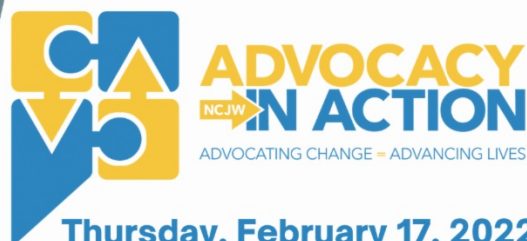




THIS WEEK! February Lunch & Learn: Current State of Immigration with Javad M. Khazaeli



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.

THIS WEEK! The Citizen Initiative Petition - What's at Risk and Why Should You Care?

When: Wednesday, February 16 | 7:30 PM CT

Where: Zoom Meeting

[RSVP Here](#)

Missouri's initiative petition system has been in place for 115 years. It allows citizens to put an issue on the ballot for a statewide vote. This critical tool, used through the years by citizens from all political persuasions is now under attack by lawmakers who want to curtail the people's power.

NCJWSTL is excited to co-sponsor an informative panel with Rabbi Andrea Goldstein of Congregation Shaare Emeth and Richard Von Glahn of Missouri Jobs With Justice. They will discuss what you need to do to fight back against various legislative efforts to derail our rights as voters.

Please [click here](#) to register for the program.

The Citizen Initiative Petition What It Is, How It Is at Risk, and Why You Should Care

At this time when voters' rights and resources are being curtailed, come and learn what the Citizen Initiative Petition is and why it needs our protection.

Join us for this virtual panel discussion with Rabbi Andrea Goldstein, Congregation Shaare Emeth and Richard von Glahn, Missouri Jobs With Justice. We will have time for questions.



Rabbi Andrea Goldstein
Congregation Shaare Emeth



Richard von Glahn
Missouri Jobs with Justice

Wednesday, February 16th | 7:30pm, Zoom

Registration Required: <https://bit.ly/3KIzuq0>



THIS WEEK! 2022 Virtual MO Women's Network Legislative Retreat



When: Saturday, February 19 | 9:00 - 11:00 AM CT

Where: Zoom Meeting

[RSVP Here](#)

Join with women from over twelve organizations (including NCJWSTL) who have strong advocacy positions and who monitor and work to influence Missouri legislative action.

The Legislative Retreat allows organizations within the coalition to share their activities with others at this free, open to the public, event. They will cover:

- (1) A brief overview of their organization;
- (2) describe the current status of the most critical pieces of MO legislation they are following this session;
- (3) share dates of their advocacy activities- lobbying, town halls, etc.

Typical legislation being followed includes bills affecting:

Gender Pay Equity
Title IX; Education
Voter Registration and Voter Rights
Human Trafficking
Gun Violence
Social and Economic Justice
And Much More

Please [click here](#) to register for what should be a fabulous event!

Tell the Senate to Pass the Equality Act!

Despite recent legal victories strengthening protections against employment discrimination, the nation faces critical gaps in its nondiscrimination laws, particularly for LGBTQ+ people.

[The Equality Act \(HR 5\)](#) would add explicit protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity to our civil rights laws. The bill would also add and expand legal protections for women, people of color, and many other communities. The Equality Act passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support in 2021, and it's time for the Senate to follow suit.

Passing the Equality Act would help build a society where everyone's dignity is recognized and respected, an extension of the Jewish value of kavod habriyot, individual dignity.

Please [click here](#) to tell the Senate to pass the Equality Act.



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
- 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.



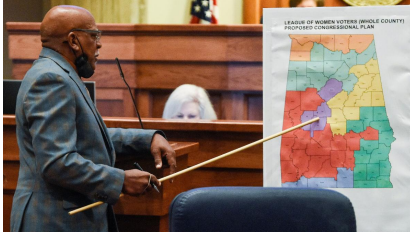
- **\$18** includes your name in the ad.
- **\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
- **\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color and includes a special gift.

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

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

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

Interesting Reading - Black History Month



As the battle over voting rights and legislative districts rages across the country (including in Missouri, where it has been especially contentious), a divided Supreme Court ruled on an Alabama case that could disenfranchise Black voters and further erode broader voting protections based on race.

[Click here](#) to read Keith Reed's article from *The Root*, "SCOTUS Allows Alabama Congressional Map that Diminishes Black Voting Power."

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