

St. Louis Jewish Community Response to Ukraine Crisis



With a full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine now under way and multiple cities under fire, concern for the Jewish community there is accelerating. The Jewish Federation of St. Louis has established an **Emergency Fund** to support our global partners who are responding with critical services on the ground.

<u>Click here</u> for more information and to make a donation to the Jewish Federation of St. Louis' Ukraine Emergency Fund.

Contact Senators Blunt and Hawley **TODAY** and Urge Them to Support the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA)!

Later **TODAY**, the Senate will hold a vote on the <u>Women's Health Protection Act</u> (<u>WHPA</u>), which would create a new tool for safeguarding access to high-quality abortion care and securing constitutional rights by protecting patients and providers from dangerous political interference.

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!

Contact Senators Blunt and Hawley and Urge Them to Confirm Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to SCOTUS!

NCJWSTL is thrilled with the news that President Biden nominated <u>Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson</u> to the United States Supreme Court. If confirmed, Judge Jackson would be the first Black woman in history to sit on the Court.

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson has a wealth of experience having served as a federal district court judge in Washington, DC since 2013 and circuit court judge on the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit since 2021, our nation's second highest court. A former public defender, assistant special counsel on the US Sentencing Commission, and law clerk for Justice Stephen Breyer, Jackson has a record of supporting reproductive health care, civil rights, disability rights, labor rights, and other issues.

WE NEED A SUPREME COURT THAT PROVIDES JUSTICE FOR

#CourtsMatter

@civilrightsorg

Now the work begins. We need you to contact Senators Blunt and Hawley **TODAY** and urge them to confirm Judge Brown to the Supreme Court! You can do so by **clicking here**, or by calling their offices:

Senator Blunt: (202) 224.5721 **Senator Hawley:** (202) 224.6154

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

Missouri Equity Education Lobby Day in Jefferson City



When: Thursday, March 3 | 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM CT

Where: Missouri Capitol

RSVP Here

NCJWSTL is excited to co-sponsor the Lobby Day for Education with the Missouri Equity Partnership where we will be meeting with lawmakers all day to fight for equity education in Missouri by promoting anti-racist and anti-bias approaches to education.

What does equity education in Missouri look like? We

believe that:

- Our students need equity education to engage in a diverse world.
- Equity education empowers teachers and students to learn accurate history as well as gain skills needed to engage with people who come from different experiences and backgrounds.
- Education is about preparing children for the rest of their lives and equity education gives them essential skills.

Please <u>click here</u> to register for what should be an empowering event. For more information, please contact Jen Bernstein at <u>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</u>.

Reactivate 2022: The Joy of Activism with A Red Circle

When: Saturday, March 5 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CT **Where:** Missouri History Museum | 5700 Lindell Boulevard

RSVP Here

It's election year and time to recharge our civic engagement muscles! Let's reconvene, reconnect, and strategize on how we can ensure that everyone who wants to vote gets their chance. We will also share in the joys of activism! This event is nonpartisan. Food will be served. Masks will be required when participants are not eating.

Please <u>click here</u> to register. The event is free of charge, but donations will be accepted.



Human Trafficking - It's Here, Let's Act!



When: Tuesday, March 15 and Tuesday, March 22 | 6:30 PM CT

Where: Zoom RSVP Here

NCJWSTL, along with St. Margaret of Scotland and the Archdiocesan Office of Peace and Justice, and the International Institute is pleased to present an important and timely program, Human Trafficking - It's Here, Let's Act.

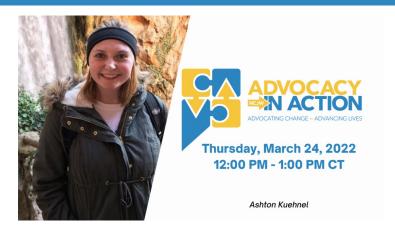
Human Trafficking isn't something that only occurs in other places; it's here right in our area and we need not only to be aware of this human slavery, but we must actively work against it. Trafficking can take many forms: sex, labor, international, domestic, agricultural, etc., and is happening in our midst.

The first session will feature presentations from NCJWSTL, the International Institute, law enforcement, and a trafficking survivor. They will share the realities of trafficking in the St. Louis area and suggest ways you can possibly help.

In the second session, engage in small groups with representatives from Healing Action, Covering House, International Institute, Covenant House, and Gateway Human Trafficking - hear what they are about, ask questions, and learn about volunteer or advocacy opportunities. There will be three sessions so you will be able to attend three different presentations.

<u>Please click</u> here to register. The events are free, but registration is required.

March Lunch & Learn: Threats to the Initiative Petition Process with Ashton Keuhnel



When: Thursday, March 24 (note 4th Thursday) | 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT

Where: Zoom Meeting

RSVP Here

Missouri's initiative petition system has been in place for 115 years and 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.

The legislature is currently proposing 20 or so different bills that would make it harder to get an issue on the ballot and increase the threshold for an initiated measure to pass once on the ballot. For some perspective, a large majority of voters recently approved a higher minimum wage, Medicaid expansion, and medical marijuana through the initiative petition process. Under the proposed new threshold, each would have failed. For our March Lunch and Learn, NCJWSTL is excited to welcome Ashton Kuehnel, who will present on why this is happening and what we can do about it. Ashton is a Grassroots Organizer with the Sierra Club, Missouri Chapter. In her role Ashton has organized around Medicaid Expansion, a just transition to clean, renewable energy and voting protections. She lives in St. Louis City and is a Saint Louis University alum.

Please <u>click here</u> to RSVP and receive your login information. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at <u>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</u>.

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



During the first year of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020, pregnancy-related deaths for mothers in the United States increased and they disproportionately affected Black people, according to the Associated Press. For Black people, the rate was 55 deaths per 100,000 births, triple the rate compared to white people.

Click here to read Noah A. McGee's article from The Root, "Pregnancy-Related Deaths Increased During

Pandemic, Disproportionately Affects Black People, According to Report."

Clean Speech St. Louis

NCJWSTL is proud to be a part of <u>Clean Speech St. Louis</u>, a community-wide initiative, bringing the St. Louis Jewish community together for a month-long initiative to educate, inform,

and raise awareness around the Jewish ideal that our words have the power to foster community growth.

Get inspired & join us starting March 1st!

www.cleanspeechstl.com



Donate to support NCJWSTL

NCJ ≥ STL | 125

CREATING CHANGE AND IMPACTING LIVES SINCE 1895



Share this information with your social network!



Be sure to follow us on Social Media!





