



**ADVOCACY
IN ACTION**

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Tell the Biden Administration: Enforce Medicaid's Free-Choice-of-Provider Protection



Over one million Missourians depend on our state Medicaid program. Federal Medicaid law guarantees Medicaid patients' right to choose where they get their healthcare. However, there are a handful of states, including Missouri, that have barred qualified providers from delivering family planning services like birth control, well-people exams, cancer screenings, and STI testing and treatment, through the program. More states are likely to follow.

The Biden Administration has said it intends to hold states accountable to federal law and ensure people have access to reproductive healthcare.

We need the Biden Administration to act now and enforce the law.

Please [click here](#) to email President Biden and Vice President Harris and urge them to enforce Medicaid's free-choice-of-provider provision now.

Tell the Senate to Confirm Nancy Abudu to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals

Fresh off the smear campaign attempting to sink Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson's confirmation, the Far Right has a new target: Nancy Abudu.

Abudu is facing attacks from multiple far-right organizations and pundits, attempting to portray her legal career of advocating for the right to vote as a bad thing! A recent op-ed from the far-right Judicial Crisis Network blasts Nancy Abudu's work with the American Civil Liberty Union's Voting Rights Project where she challenged the legislation in multiple states that restricted the freedom to vote. It's important to note, that the all-important Eleventh Circuit that Abudu has been nominated to serve on includes Florida, Georgia, and Alabama – states with a long history of voter suppression.

The far-right is so opposed to Abudu that they've been flooding Senate offices with messages opposing her nomination. But with voting rights under attack like never before (and a narrowly divided Senate), it's vital that we counter their efforts, so we don't lose



a single vote in favor of her confirmation.

Please [click here](#) to urge Senators Blunt and Hawley to confirm Nancy Abudu to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

TOMORROW! Lobby Day to Save the Citizen Initiative Petition Process



When: Tuesday, May 3 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CT
Where: First Floor Rotunda at the State Capitol
[Register Here](#)

Please join with advocates from across the state to participate in a Lobby Day in Jefferson City to Save the Citizen Initiative Petition process.

In recent years, Missouri voters have collectively proposed and passed policies that have raised the minimum wage, legalized medical marijuana, and expanded eligibility for healthcare to 300,000 Missourians - all through the

initiative petition process.

Unfortunately, this important democratic tool is currently under attack.

We are mobilizing in full force to show that we oppose any changes to our citizen Initiative Petition process before the end of the legislative session. Won't you join us?

Please [click here](#) to register. If you would like to join us and need transportation, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

May Lunch & Learn: Missouri Legislative Session Wrap-Up with Emily Manley from Fox 2 News St. Louis



Thursday, May 19, 2022
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

Emily Manley

When: Thursday, May 19 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CT
Where: Zoom Meeting
[RSVP Here](#)

The Missouri Legislature will wrap up its 2022 session on May 13th. From the Senate infighting regarding redistricting and the budget to the myriad attacks on reproductive rights, it has certainly been a doozy of a session. It can often be very difficult for the layperson to navigate its intricacies.

For our May Lunch and Learn, we are absolutely thrilled to welcome Emily Manley, the chief capitol bureau reporter at Fox 2 News St. Louis.

Emily received her bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University, Macomb, and completed her Master of Arts with an emphasis in Public Affairs Reporting at the University of Illinois, Springfield. She worked as an intern for WICS's statehouse bureau in Springfield, Illinois. That is where she also covered legislative efforts, committee

hearings, and a gubernatorial election during grad school.

She's originally from Highland, Illinois but has enjoyed becoming a Missourian and reporting on legislation that affects the state. She currently lives in mid-Missouri.

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

Help Domestic Violence Survivors: Become a Court Watcher

When: Friday, May 20 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM CT

Where: Cardinal Rigali Center – Lally Room | 20 Archbishop May Drive

[Register Here](#)

St. Martha's Hall Court Watch Project is currently recruiting volunteers to observe courtrooms where civil domestic violence cases are being heard and monitor the proceedings to enhance the response to domestic violence cases.



The Court Watch Project is a community-based initiative within the court system to help improve court processes regarding Order of Protection hearings. The mission of the Court Watch Project is to make the justice system more effective and responsive in handling cases of domestic violence perpetrated against women and children and to create a more informed and involved public. **This is a great opportunity for students, victim advocates, and community members.**

Monitors must be at least 18 years of age, attend the training, and commit to observing for at least six months. For more information visit [Court Watch Project](#).

Please [click here](#) to register for the next training. For more information, please contact Carla Maley at carlam@saintmarthas.org.

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 far-right has recently been throwing around the word "grooming" as a scare tactic targeting the LGBTQ+ community. This has manifested into draconian



legislation like Florida's infamous "Don't Say Gay" bill. Although many supporters of the "Don't Say Gay" bills believe they are "protecting children," research makes clear comprehensive sex education can prevent incidences of abuse. Those aiming to prevent this education are truly the ones doing the grooming.

[Click here](#) to read Sarah Rainey-Smithback's article from Ms. Magazine, "'Don't Say Gay' Bills Groom Children for Sexual Abuse, and May Even Violate Title IX."

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