



# ADVOCACY IN ACTION

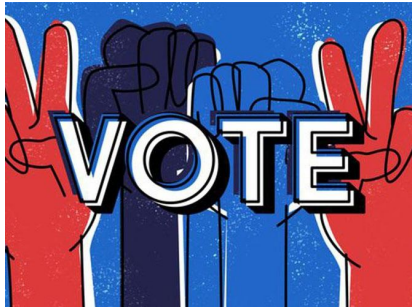
ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

**Want to help people seeking access to reproductive healthcare in our region? Want to make a "hands-on" difference in someone's life?** NCJWSTL has partnered with local clinics to provide direct support services to patients. Help us help women in our region by ordering from our [Amazon Wish List](#). These items will be stocked at the clinics for patients in need. NCJWSTL volunteers will coordinate and deliver everything to the clinics.

- Please [click here](#) for the **NCJWSTL Clinic Wish List**.
- Please make sure that **NCJWSTL is the shipping address when you place an order (295 N. Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63141)**.

*\*Thanks in advance for your help and support.\**

## Election Day is Tomorrow!



Your vote matters now more than ever. **If you have an absentee ballot, please make sure you drop it off at the election headquarters TODAY in the city or county. You cannot drop it off on election day at your polling place.** If you decide to vote early instead of mailing your ballot, you can go to several locations in the city and county to do so and just turn in the unused ballot. You have until 7:00 PM on November 8th for your ballot to be received by mail or in person. If it arrives late it will not count.

**Absentee ballots must be notarized TODAY.** The statement on the outside of the ballot envelope must be signed in front of a notary public. NCJWSTL Advocacy Manager Jen Bernstein is happy to notarize your ballot. Please contact her at 314.993.5181 or [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org) to make an appointment.

**There are new laws this year about what you can use as an ID to vote. Please make sure you bring a MO state-issued ID or Veteran's ID. You can no longer use a student ID or other form of photo ID to vote. If you have additional voting questions, please call Ellen or Jen at 314.993.5181.**

## Tell Secretary of State Ashcroft to Say NO to Restricting Intellectual Freedom

Missouri Secretary of State Ashcroft has proposed a new

rule which would stop state funding for any library that doesn't file written policies with the State Librarian on how individuals can challenge a book or other material in the collection. The rule calls for "age-appropriate" content but does not specify what that means.

Librarians believe that parents can and should be responsible for what their own children read. By allowing anyone to challenge material, this rule would infringe on the First Amendment rights of parents as well as older children.



The public library system is a basic community service. Libraries are a major source of knowledge and information necessary for informed, active participation in a democratic society. This proposed rule suggests that libraries should not try to represent all points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times. Placement of books and materials in libraries is something that should be left up to people with training and experience in the profession of librarianship.

Please [click here](#) or call 573.751.4936 to tell Secretary Ashcroft that the proposed measure is unnecessary and could be used to restrict intellectual freedom that libraries uphold.

## Tell the FDA: We Need Over-the-Counter Birth Control Now!



Did you know? An application for the first-ever over-the-counter (OTC) birth control pill was filed with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in June.

**The FDA announced an advisory committee will meet on November 18 to review the application.** This meeting is a key step in the FDA's regulatory process and an important opportunity for public testimony emphasizing the strong evidence and broad support for OTC birth control pills for people of all ages.

**You can submit testimony** letting the FDA know that everyone should have the resources they need to plan their futures, including the birth control method of their choice, free from barriers or stigma. **Submissions must be received by November 3.**

Please [click here](#) to submit your electronic testimony urging the FDA to approve over-the-counter birth control.

## November Lunch and Learn - NCJW's Israel Programming With Kalela Lancaster



Thursday, November 17, 2022  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

Kalela Lancaster

**When:** Thursday, November 17 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT  
**Where:** Zoom

Did you know? For more than 70 years, NCJW has been supporting women, children and families throughout Israeli society regardless of ethnicity, religion, and economic status. NCJW does its work through a gender lens, empowering Israeli and American women to advocate for a robust civil society. With our grants to Israeli organizations, participation in advocacy coalitions, policy statements, and our pioneering work in education and research, NCJW is a leader of women's and gender rights in Israel.

For our November Lunch and Learn, we are thrilled to welcome Kalela Lancaster, NCJW Israel's Program Manager, who will speak about the impact our programs have had in underserved communities all over Israel.

Kalela Lancaster joined NCJW as Israel Program Manager in November 2021, with responsibility for driving NCJW's strategy to strengthen the feminist field in Israel through a range of capacity building and philanthropic initiatives, and for engaging NCJW advocates in our Israel work.

**Please [click here](#) to register for the November Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org) or call 314.993.5181**

## 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

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

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

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

## Interesting Reading



As more information comes out about the situation at Jana Elementary, we are also following a new study from [Nature Communications](#) that found that people in minority communities are breathing in higher levels of dangerous toxins. Though air pollution is a nationwide issue, communities of color are subjected to higher concentrations of chemicals from metals.

**[Click here](#) to read Kalyn Womak's article from The Root, "Researchers Find Communities of Color Breathe In Higher Levels of Toxins."**

**Donate to Support NCJWSTL & Transform Our Community**

**Share this information with your social network!**





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**BBB TORCH Award**  
*Celebrating Exceptional  
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