



## **Get FREE Emergency Contraception at NCJWSTL!**

NCJWSTL is thrilled to announce that we have partnered with the <u>Missouri Family Health Council</u> (MFHC) to distribute **FREE emergency contraception kits**! This effort is vitally important in the wake of last year's Supreme Court decision overturning Roe vs. Wade, especially in states like Missouri where abortion is illegal. Everyone should have the right to determine when and if they wish to start a family, and emergency contraception is vital in preventing unwanted pregnancies.



Also known as the morning-after pill, or by the brand

name Plan B, the emergency contraception pill is an over-the-counter form of birth control that can be taken up to five days after unprotected sex to avoid pregnancy. The goal of this effort is to reduce geographic and financial barriers Missourians face in accessing emergency contraception pills.

While supplies last, MFHC, NCJWSTL and other partner organizations are offering free EC kits to anyone of any age. Feel free to stop by the NCJWSTL office to pick up your kit - for you or a loved one.

*If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at <i>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org*. *You can also order an emergence contraception kit by mail by <u>clicking here</u>.* 

THIS WEEK! Harnessing our United Strength: Mobilizing, Staying Informed, and Advocating for Reproductive Rights and Healthcare

When: Wednesday, June 14 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM CT Where: Zoom RSVP Here

Join representatives of NCJW San Francisco, NCJW St. Louis, NCJW Scottsdale and NCJW Inc. for a cross-sectional NCJW Zoom event. This unique program will feature experts from across the country who will speak about efforts to protect reproductive rights. Hear from different NCJW sections about what they are doing to secure reproductive healthcare access and justice for all.



We are especially excited that NCJWSTL's State Policy Advocacy Chair, Amy Kuo Hammerman, will be one of the featured speakers. Additional speakers include Representative Eric Swalwell of California, award-winning investigative journalist Civia Tamarkin, Shira Zemel, Co-Director of NCJW, Inc.'s abortion access campaign. You won't want to miss this opportunity to speak with advocates from all over the country!

This event is free of charge, but you must register to attend by clicking here.

### THIS WEEK! June Lunch and Learn - The State of LGBTQ+ Rights in Missouri with Senator Greg Razer



When: Thursday, June 15 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT Where: Zoom RSVP Here

June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month, in commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising. In past years, it felt to many like equality and inclusion for the LGBTQ+ community became a non-issue, but if this year's Missouri legislative session taught us anything, this is not the case. Members of the Senate made it their mission to target trans youth (at the expense of other important legislation) and passed two extremely harmful bills targeting trans children and their families.

In honor of Pride Month, we are excited to welcome Senator Greg Razer, who is the only openly gay member of the Missouri State Senate. As a once-suicidal teen struggling with his sexuality growing up in southern Missouri's cotton country, Razer especially feels a kinship with transgender youth who are targeted in our state. He spent the entire session standing up for these kids and worked relentlessly to try and stall these bills. We are excited to hear from him what we can do as community volunteers to support trans youth and how we can plan for future legislative attacks against the LGBTQ+ community.

Prior to his election to the legislature, Razer was a field organizer for PROMO, the state's major LGBTQ+ advocacy organization, and worked on the campaign staff of Senator Claire McCaskill.

*Please <u>click here</u> to register for the June Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at <u>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</u> or call 314.993.5181* 

## Messaging Training: Abortion and Religious Freedom

When: Tuesday, June 20 | 5:30 – 7:30 PM CT Where: Jewish Federation | 12 Millstone Campus Drive RSVP Here

NCJWSTL is proud to cosponsor this training designed to teach powerful ways to talk about abortion, the Missouri abortion access lawsuit and project and how church-state separation and religious freedom run through it all. With these tools and skills, participants will be able to help change the conversation and move the needle on these topics in any situation.

The program will be facilitated by Brian Silva, Vice President of Outreach and Engagement at Americans United for Separation of Church and State and is cosponsored by the Bohm Center for Social Justice of the JCRC, NCJWSTL, Access MO, Ashrei Foundation, Pro Choice Missouri, Central Reform Congregation and Congregation Shaare Emeth.

## MESSAGING TRAINING:

Abortion and Religious Freedom Led by Brian Silva, Vice President, Outreach & Engagement Americans United for Separation of Church & State

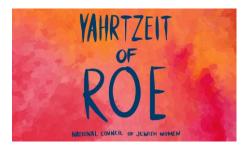


Learn powerful ways to talk about abortion, the Missouri abortion access lawsuit & project, and how church-state separation and religious freedom run through it all.

With these tools and skills, participants will be able to help change the conversation and move the needle on these topics in any situation.

*This is a free program but registration required. A light dinner will be served. Please click here* to register.

# Yahrtzeit of Roe Virtual Candle Lighting with National NCJW



When: Friday, June 23 | 12:00 - 12:30 PM CT Where: Zoom RSVP Here

June 24, 2023 marks one year since the Supreme Court took away the constitutional right to abortion with their ruling to overturn *Roe v. Wade.* Without the protections of Roe, more than half of states across the country (including Missouri) have implemented abortion

restrictions or bans that have exacerbated structural inequalities blocking access to abortion and other reproductive care.

In Judaism, it is customary to mark the anniversary date of a death, a yahrtzeit, to mourn, remember, and honor the departed.

*Please <u>click here</u> to join us for a virtual yahrtzeit candle lighting and mark this one year anniversary to affirm your commitment to the path forward in abortion access.* 

# **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 2023! 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, such as birth control access and voting rights. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2023.

- **\$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

<u>Click here</u> to see the A-List flyer. <u>Click here</u> to see the latest A-List Ad. Join the A-list <u>here</u>.

# Interesting Reading

Last week, Governor Mike Parson signed Senate Bills 39 and 49 into law. These anti-transgender bills were sold as measures to protect minors. However, advocacy groups



and doctors warn that the effect is exactly the opposite. In fact, anti-trans legislation across the country is causing irreparable harm to young trans people, many of whom fear for their life, safety and future.

<u>**Click here**</u> to read Ileana Garnand's article from The Center for Public Integrity, "Young People are Being Harmed: The Effect of Anti-Trans Legislation."

