



ADVOCACY IN ACTION

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Not yet a member of NCJWSTL? [Click here](#) to become part of a growing network of courageous and compassionate individuals who improve the lives of women, children, and families every day. You don't have to be a woman or Jewish to join!

Help Assemble Free Emergency Contraception Kits with NCJWSTL and Temple Israel

When: Thursday, August 24 | 7:00 - 8:00 PM CT

Where: Temple Israel | 1 Rabbi Alvin D. Rubin Drive

[RSVP Here](#)

NCJWSTL's longtime coalition partner, the Missouri Family Health Council (MFHC), is partnering with organizations and business to increase access to emergency contraception (EC) by distributing Free EC kits across Missouri. In fact, NCJWSTL has distributed almost 100 kits since the project began a couple of months ago! These individually-packaged kits contain two doses of levonorgestrel emergency contraception (an over-the-counter medication sometimes called "Plan B" or "the morning-after pill"), safer sex supplies (like condoms), and sexual health education and consent resources.



We are excited to partner with Temple Israel on July 24th at 7:00 PM to assemble Free EC kits that will be distributed across Missouri. Your support and help will allow MFHC to increase access to these needed items for anyone who might need them.

The event is open to the community, but registration is required. Please [click here](#) to register.

Equality is a Jewish Value: Protect Trans and LGBTQ+ Youth



NCJW
ACTION
ALERT

At NCJWSTL, we believe in treating others as they would like to be treated. That means we love, protect, and fight for trans and LGBQ+ youth and all LGBTQ+ people.

Did you know there are currently two proposed federal bills that aim to harm LGBTQ+ youth?

HR 734 would ban transgender and intersex youth from playing on school sports teams, taking away the important social and health benefits, and the opportunities to build skills like teamwork, cooperation, and leadership we know kids get from playing sports.

HR 5 would insert the federal government as a national school board, undermine local control and hurt the ability of both parents and teachers to support children. At a moment when we are already seeing dangerous moves toward school censorship and book bans, this unprecedented federal government interference would disrupt the public education system, undermine our communities, especially LGBTQ+ families and families of color, and cut LGBTQ+ youth off from accessing the resources and support they need to thrive.

Please [click here](#) to urge your legislators to oppose both of these dangerous bills.

Help Gather signatures to put Missourians for Healthy Families and Fair Wages on the Ballot!

NCJWSTL is part of [Missourians for Healthy Families and Fair Wages](#), a statewide effort to gradually raise Missouri's minimum wage to \$15 by 2026 and allow employees to earn paid time off to care for themselves and loved ones through an initiative on the November 2024 statewide ballot.



We need your help to put this on the ballot. Will you help gather the signatures we need to deliver fair wages and the freedom to earn paid time off to care for ourselves and our families?

Join us for these upcoming volunteer opportunities:

- Friday, August 18th through Sunday, August 20th - Festival of Little Hills
- Saturday, August 26th & Sunday, August 27th - Festival of Nations
- Saturday, August 26th - St. Louis Labor Council Labor Day Picnic

Please [click here](#) to volunteer to gather signatures for any or all of the dates above.

August Lunch & Learn: Toxic Insurance Practices with Kevin Hawkins from Jobs With Justice



When: Thursday, August 17 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

You buy insurance for one reason – protection. You pay premiums in exchange for the promise that your insurance company will protect you. Insurance companies have built marketing campaigns around one goal – getting customers to trust them to fulfill this promise.

What happens when insurance companies fail to fulfill their promise? To answer this question and speak about toxic insurance practices, we are thrilled to welcome **Kevin Hawkins** from *Missouri Jobs With Justice* for our August Lunch & Learn.

Kevin has more than 20 years of practical experience working throughout the St. Louis region working with many organizations including St. Louis City Department of Health, Washington University, Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region, Places for People, and BJC Behavioral Health. He is a graduate of Ladue High School and Fontbonne University.

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

Tell us What's on Your Mind!

As NCJWSTL focuses on our **mission** to improve the lives of women, children, and families in our community, we need your insights. We are considering launching a new initiative targeted at serving working mothers. This survey is open to all. Please help us understand our community's strengths, areas for improvement, and your experiences with local resources by participating in our brief survey.



Please take the survey [linked here](#) by Tuesday, August 15.

Your valuable input will shape our initiatives and collaborations, and inform potential new efforts.

We know you're time is limited -- the survey will take just 5-10 minutes to complete.

We love hearing and standing beside you to make sure your voice is heard so together we can continue making a difference.

**NCWJSTL New Initiative
Survey**

Get FREE Emergency Contraception at NCJWSTL!

NCJWSTL is thrilled to announce that we have partnered with the [Missouri Family Health Council](#) (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 jbernstein@ncjwstl.org. You can also order an emergency contraception kit by mail by [clicking here](#).

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

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

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

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

Interesting Reading



On Thursday, July 27, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker (D) signed "The Deceptive Practices of Limited Services Pregnancy Centers Act" (SB 1909) into law, prohibiting anti-abortion "crisis pregnancy centers" (CPCs) from using deception or fraud to interfere with a person seeking access to abortion or other reproductive health services. The law became effective as of signing. It would be great if Missouri would do the same!

Four states—Connecticut, Colorado, Illinois and Vermont—expressly prohibit anti-abortion clinics from deception or fraud. "If the medical provider does not lie," Rep. Margaret Croke said, "they have nothing to worry about."

[Click here](#) to read Carrie N. Baker and Jennifer McKenna's article from Ms. Magazine, "Illinois Law Holds Anti-Abortion 'Crisis Pregnancy Centers' Accountable for Misinformation and Fraud."

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