



ADVOCACY IN ACTION

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

NCJW stands in solidarity with the people of Israel. May our collective hopes and efforts pave the way for a brighter future where Israelis, Palestinians and all in the region can live in peace.

THIS WEEK! November Lunch & Learn: How Political Can Non-Profits Be? Plus, Legislative Session Preview



When: Thursday, November 16 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

May nonprofits engage in political activity? The answer is yes, no, and maybe, depending on the type of nonprofit and its activities.

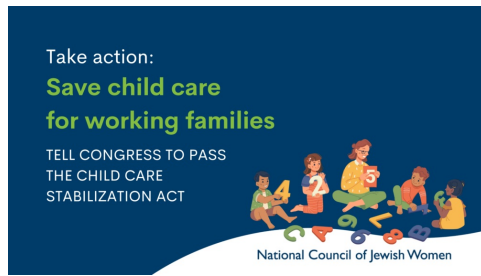
There is a lot of confusion about what constitutes political activity. Nonprofits often engage in advocacy, political campaigning, or lobbying. These terms are not identical!

For our November Lunch & Learn, we are excited to welcome Sam Gladney, who will help us navigate what we can and cannot do in the political realm at NCJWSTL. He will also give us a brief preview into the upcoming legislative session.

Gladney is a 2016 graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. He is licensed to practice law in Missouri and is a member of the AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Committee. He is the Chair of the Employee Benefits Section of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL). He recently started at a new firm, Stranch, Jennings & Garvey PLLC.

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

Take Action to Save Child Care



Childcare is facing a crisis in our country.

Quality childcare has long been unaffordable and out of reach for many, gaps that most harm families with low incomes and others pushed to the margins. These inequities also hurt care workers, who are disproportionately Black, Latina, Asian and immigrant women, and who have historically been paid poverty level wages. Pandemic funding that

saved the childcare industry from collapse expired on September 30th, which could lead to childcare programs raising their rates or closing their doors permanently, leaving countless working families without the safe and quality care they need.

The Child Care Stabilization Act, introduced by Senators Patty Murray (D-WA) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) in the Senate and Representatives Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Katherine Clark (D-MA) in the House, would address the impending childcare cliff by investing \$16 billion in emergency childcare funding to avert a devastating decrease in the supply of care that would disrupt the lives of families and our economy.

Please [click here](#) to urge your Members of Congress to act NOW and pass the Child Care Stabilization Act.

Tell Congress: Reinstate The Assault Weapons Ban Now

The cycle of violence is heartbreaking. Every time our country begins to heal from one avoidable mass shooting, we're faced with another horrific act of gun violence, like the recent tragedy in Lewiston, Maine.

There's often a common thread in mass shootings, and the tragedy in Lewiston is no different: The shooting turned as deadly as it did because of an assault weapon—a weapon invented for use on the battlefield, designed to kill as many people as possible as quickly as possible.



We shouldn't have to live like this—and we won't stand for inaction from our lawmakers any longer.

Please [click here](#) to urge your U.S. Senators and Representative to reinstate the bipartisan Assault Weapons Ban NOW.

ADD YOUR NAME and Help Us Oppose Censorship of Our Public Libraries



For those who have already joined, thank you!

To protect libraries throughout Missouri, including those at public schools, NCJWSTL has helped convene a statewide coalition of individuals and organizations called Right to Read. The coalition will oppose any legislative, state policy or other effort to restrict access to materials at public libraries; the coalition has the utmost confidence in trained, experienced librarians and

educators to evaluate and select materials in the libraries' collection.

Did you know?

- As a result of a Missouri law enacted in August 2022 restricting some types of

materials in public schools, **librarians fearful of criminal prosecution have removed nearly 300 titles** from school library shelves.

- Under an administrative rule imposed by Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, all public libraries must have submitted by July 31 how they will comply with the vaguely written rule. **Failure to comply could result in loss of state funding**, which comprises a significant portion of small libraries' budgets.
- Missouri is among the nation's top book banning states, **especially regarding restricting access to books about gender, sexuality and race in public schools.**

More attempts will likely be made in the 2024 Missouri legislative session to suppress First Amendment rights. Free and open access to materials at our public libraries is an essential aspect of our democracy.

Please [click here](#) to add your name as an individual member of the coalition. For more information, please e-mail the coalition at righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com.

Partner Abortion Clinic Needs Donations

For the past year, NCJWSTL has partnered with local abortion clinics across the river in Illinois to provide direct support services to patients.

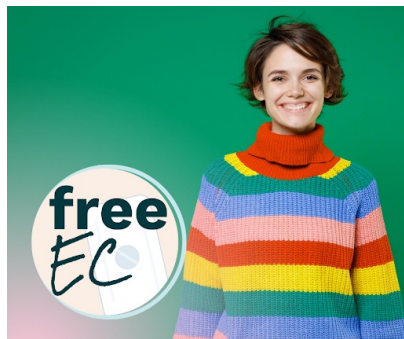
One of our partner clinics is in need of a few specific items:

- Gas cards
- Snack bags (pretzels, cookies, granola bars, etc.)
- Diapers (sizes 1-5)
- Travel shampoo
- Baby formula



This is an opportunity to make a "hands-on" difference in someone's life. Please drop off or mail any donations to the NCJWSTL office at 295 N. Lindbergh, St. Louis, MO, 63141. For more information, please contact Renee Sigel-Hearst at rsigel-hearst@ncjwstl.org.

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.

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



A wave of departures by election officials in key states risks adding new stress to the nation's election system ahead of next year's presidential contest, voting rights groups and several state election chiefs warn.

The growing alarm over the resignations and retirements comes as officials say election workers continue to face a barrage of threats and harassment and partisan

interference in their duties, first ignited by false claims of a stolen White House election in 2020.

[Click here](#) to read Fredreka Schouten's article from CNN, "A Tide of Election Worker Resignations Raises Alarms Ahead of 2024."

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!

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Transform Our Community

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