



# ADVOCACY IN ACTION

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

## Become a Poll Worker and Make a Difference

The 2024 General Election is quickly approaching and our community can help prepare for it. The Jewish community is showing up this election season – this includes getting people to [sign up to work the polls!](#)

As part of The [Jewish Partnership for Democracy](#), we at NCJWSTL have committed to recruiting poll workers to help ensure our local elections are free, fair, safe and accessible. That's where you come in!

Poll workers are critical to help maintain safe and accessible in-person voting for communities without reliable access to mail service, voters with disabilities, voters who need language assistance or for voters who simply want to cast their ballot in person as they always have.

When you sign up, you will be directed to the official poll worker application for your local jurisdiction. Once you submit your application, your local election administrator will contact you if your service is needed.

Please [click here](#) to register and help support the process of democracy.



## Tell the Senate to Confirm Fair, Independent, Diverse and Qualified Judicial Nominees



Federal judges make decisions that affect our daily lives, and the majority of the bench is not reflective of the communities they serve.

While the Supreme Court makes the headlines, our district and circuit courts make the final call in over ninety-nine percent of federal cases. Over 400,000 cases are filed each year in our federal district and circuit courts, and these cases affect countless people

every day. Federal judges who serve in lifetime appointments must be fair, independent, and qualified with a commitment to constitutional rights for everyone.

NCJW believes in a federal judiciary that is of and for the people.

[Click here](#) to email your senators and tell them to confirm fair, independent, diverse, and qualified judicial nominees.

## August Lunch and Learn: The Intersection of Bullying and Antisemitism with Lauren Abraham



Thursday, August 15, 2024  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

*Lauren Abraham and students*

**When:** Thursday, August 15 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM

**Where:** Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

We have unfortunately heard countless stories of severe and persistent bullying and harassment of Jewish students since the October 7, 2023, attack by Hamas against Israel. These incidents are deeply troubling, and the rise in antisemitism demands our attention and action.

Bigotry is often the result of a lack of knowledge and familiarity. As a response, JCRC St. Louis developed Student to Student, a program that reduces stereotypes and prejudice in the students it reaches. Initially funded in 1992 by a planning grant of the Jewish Federation, Student to Student has reached thousands of students in area schools that lack a Jewish presence. Young people who have had this experience can now put a "human face" to Judaism—the best antidote to bigotry and intolerance.

We are so excited to hear from Student to Student Coordinator Lauren Abraham and several of her student leaders for our August Lunch and Learn. They will explain how they are confronting antisemitism and bullying, one presentation at a time.

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

## Know Your Missouri Voting Information - Missouri's Primary is Tomorrow!

**Missouri's primary election is tomorrow** and will determine which candidates appear on November's general election ballot. No matter what zip code we live in or the color of our skin, our voices are equal at the ballot box, and we all must make sure our voices are heard!



## STEP 1

### Voter Registration

NCJWSTL is encouraging all of our members, friends and supporters to confirm their [voter registration is up to date](#).

Voter registration must be completed by: **July 10th** for the **August 6th Primary** and **October 9th** for the **November 5th** General Election.

**You do not need a photo ID when registering to vote unless you have never registered to vote before.**



Voter Registration Info



## STEP 2

### Absentee Voting

You can vote absentee by mail or in person. If you vote absentee by mail, your ballot must be notarized and received by the Board of Elections by **the day before the election**. [Notaries are available at all STL County Public Libraries and NCJWSTL.](#)

#### For the August 6th Primary Election

First day to vote absentee - June 25th  
Two weeks of no-excuse, in-person absentee voting - July 23rd - Aug 5th  
Mail-in Absentee request due to election authority - July 24th

#### For the November 5th General Election

First day to vote absentee - Sept 24th  
Two weeks of no-excuse, in-person absentee voting - Oct 22nd - Nov 4th  
Mail-in Absentee request due to election authority - Oct 23rd



Absentee Voting Info

## Your Vote is Important

- This information and these voting procedures are recommended by NCJWSTL for our 2024 elections.
- Please keep in mind that these recommendations are based on current state and local information and guidelines that are subject to change according to political policy changes. We will do everything to keep you updated if there are changes.
- If you would like more information, have a question or need an update on current guidelines please contact Jen Bernstein at 314-993-5181 or [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org).

**Are you interested in getting involved with NCJWSTL's Get Out the Vote Campaign? Please contact Andi Schankman at [ncjwstlvotes@gmail.com](mailto:ncjwstlvotes@gmail.com) for more information**

It is vitally important that you check to make sure your voter registration information is up to date. You can do so by [clicking here](#). For more information about absentee voting, please [click here](#).

## 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](mailto:righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto: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 ensure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2024!** 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 2024.

- **\$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



"For two days last week, I joined the ranks of thousands of poll workers across the country who help run elections in their communities. This army of retirees, students, neighbors – and yes journalists – not only navigates voters through the process, but also help protect it.


I have a whole new appreciation for poll workers."

[Click here](#) to read Deborah Barfield Berry's article from the USA Today, "My Stint as a Poll Worker: I Have a Whole New Appreciation for Folks Helping Run Elections."

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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