



**ADVOCACY  
IN ACTION**  
NCJW  
ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

At NCJWSTL, we are dedicated to tracking these legislative developments closely, focusing on bills that align with our mission of improving the lives of women, children, and families.

Please [click here](#) to view the bills NCJWSTL is following and whether we are in support or in opposition. The list will be continuously updated throughout session.

## Cocktails and Causes: Sip, Savor, and Stand for Change

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*Cocktails  
&  
CAUSES*

**Amy Kuo Hammerman**  
State Policy Advocate

**Sarah Martin**  
Professional Lobbyist  
NCJWSTL Board Member

Thursday, May 22, 2025  
7 - 8 PM

Join us to discuss the impact of the 2025 MO Legislative Session on our priority issues.

**When:** Thursday, May 22 | 7:00 - 8:00 PM  
**Where:** NCJWSTL Office | 295 N. Lindbergh Blvd.  
[RSVP Here](#)

As the 2025 Missouri legislative session nears its dramatic close on May 16th, one thing is clear: the gridlock of last year is gone, and in its place, lawmakers in Jefferson City have united to push a troubling agenda – including efforts to overturn [Amendment 3](#) and [Prop A](#), and roll back progress on several key NCJWSTL priorities.

But what does it all really mean for our community?

Join NCJWSTL for a powerful evening of **Cocktails and Causes**, where we'll unpack the session's twists, turns, and what it all means moving forward. We're honored to welcome **State Policy Advocate Amy Kuo Hammerman and professional lobbyist – and NCJWSTL board member – Sarah Martin** for an eye-opening conversation.

Expect candid insights, real talk, and answers to your burning questions—served up with cocktails and appetizers (trust us, after this session, you'll want both).

We can't wait to raise a glass with you and dive into this critical conversation!

Cocktails and Causes is free of charge, but please [click here](#) to register by May 20th.

## Tell Missouri's Members of Congress: Restore Title X. Stop the Medicaid Cuts

Missouri's sexual and reproductive healthcare safety-net is in jeopardy. Missouri's Title X funding is frozen indefinitely, and Congress is considering drastic cuts to Medicaid. If Title X and Medicaid are gutted, Missouri is facing:

- Reduced access to contraception, STI testing, and cancer screenings;
- Closed clinics, leaving individuals without essential healthcare services.

For 1.3 million Missourians, including your family, friends, and neighbors, Medicaid is the **ONLY** way they can afford health services. Without these programs, tens of thousands will lose the care they need to stay healthy.

Please [click here](#) to send Missouri's Congressional delegation an email now, urging them to restore Title X funding and oppose detrimental cuts to Medicaid.

Yes,  
**HEALTHCARE  
IS AT RISK**

## Help Lift Children Out of Poverty: Pass the American Family Act



Families around the country are struggling with rising costs of food, fuel, and basic necessities — and our government has a moral responsibility to support families in need. [The Child Tax Credit](#) is a crucial tool that gives families, particularly those with lower incomes, extra money to afford basic needs that would otherwise be out of reach. Yet 17 million children — roughly one in four — do not receive these important funds because their families' incomes are too low to

qualify.

[The American Family Act](#) would permanently expand the Child Tax Credit and include the families that have been left out of this life-saving resource, a proven and direct tool to reduce child poverty. As costs skyrocket and key federal safety net programs that Americans rely on are at risk, it is more crucial now than ever that we advance policies to help families navigate the affordability crisis.

Please [click here](#) to urge Congress to work to end child poverty and pass the American Family Act!

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

Protect Missouri's Libraries! Join the Right to Read Coalition by [clicking here](#).

For those who have already joined, thank you! Check our member list to see who supports us...and if you've already joined by [clicking here](#).

Right to Read is a statewide coalition of 1,000 individuals and nearly 100 organizations. The coalition opposes legislative, state policy, or other efforts to restrict access to materials at public and school libraries.



Censorship denies our First Amendment rights to access books that reflect our diverse community:

- Missouri ranked third nationally in 2023 for the number of books banned at school libraries.
- 60% of banned books in the U.S. include characters of color and discussed issues of race and racism or presented LGBTQ+ characters or themes.

Laws and policies enacted recently have led to book bans and harmful regulations on our libraries. **We expect more censorship efforts in Missouri in 2025.**

Add your voice to thousands of Missourians to fight censorship and book bans!

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 2025!** 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 2025.

- **\$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](#).





While much of the public's attention in Missouri has been rightly focused on efforts by extremist state lawmakers to unravel Amendment 3 and roll back our constitutional right to reproductive freedom, a quieter but equally dangerous assault is underway: a federal effort to dismantle the nation's only dedicated family planning program, Title X.


And Missouri is one of the first targets.

[Click here](#) to read Missouri Family Health Council Executive Director Michelle Trupiano's article from *The Missouri Independent*, "If Both Title X and Medicaid are Guttled, Missourians Will Face Impossible Barriers to Care."

**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!**

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

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