

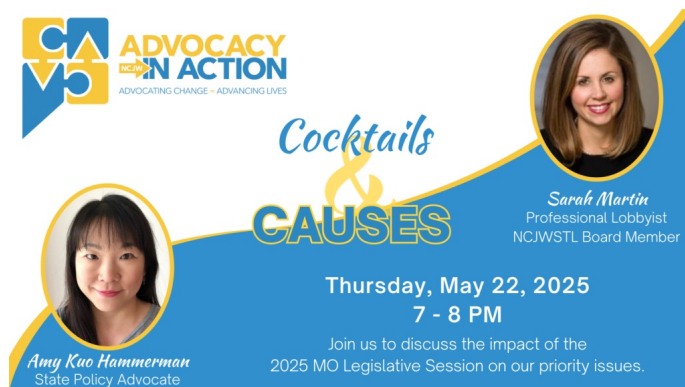


### There are less than three weeks left in the 2025 Missouri Legislative Session.

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



**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.*

**Please note that the correct date is May 22, as it has been changed from a previously published date. Thank you!**

## Petition: Support Families by Supporting Women



The Trump administration is attempting to increase the US birthrate and promote "family values" by providing frivolous incentives like menstrual cycle classes, monetary "baby bonuses," and medals to mothers with six or more children. This initiative is part of a broader trend led by conservative lawmakers to restrict reproductive freedom while failing to meaningfully address the real challenges that American women and families face.

Instead, if our nation is serious about encouraging family formation, we must focus on what women actually need: **the freedom to decide if and when to have children, the resources to raise children, and the ability to thrive while doing so.**

A lower birthrate is not a crisis. The real crisis is a political agenda that treats women's bodies as tools of the state while ignoring what it actually takes to raise a child in America.

*Please [click here](#) to urge elected officials at every level to center the voices, rights, and needs of women and families — not ideology — in policymaking.*

## 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.

Yes,  
**HEALTHCARE  
IS AT RISK**

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.*

## 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](#).

## Interesting Reading



A leaked budget draft obtained by The Washington Post reveals that beginning October 1, the current administration plans to eliminate funding for the LGBTQ+ specific crisis line, a service that has helped more than 1.2 million LGBTQ+ people in moments of crisis. The decision, experts warn, could have catastrophic consequences.

[Click here](#) to read Christopher Wiggins' article from *The Advocate*, "Advocates and Health Experts Worry Trump's Suicide Prevention Hotline Cuts Will Increase LGBTQ+ Youth Deaths."

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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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**2019 WINNER**  
**BBB TORCH Award**  
*Celebrating Exceptional  
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