



# ADVOCACY IN ACTION

NCJW

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

**The 2026 Missouri Legislative Session has begun.** 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.

## Join Us for the 2026 Jewish Advocacy Day



Join Jewish community members from across Missouri for [Jewish Advocacy Day on Wednesday, January 21, 2026](#), in Jefferson City. This is an opportunity to advocate for our shared priorities, meet with lawmakers, and ensure our voices are heard on the issues that impact our families and community.

Throughout the day, participants will:

- Meet directly with state legislators;
- Learn about key policy priorities affecting Jewish Missourians;
- Build relationships that strengthen our collective advocacy efforts.

Whether you're a seasoned advocate or joining us for the first time, your presence matters. Together we can make a difference!

**Bus transportation will be available from St. Louis to Jefferson City, leaving at 8:00 AM and returning at approximately 5:00 PM.** The departure location will be communicated closer to the event day. If you are participating from another city, a representative from your area will be in contact about transportation.

Please [click here](#) to register. Participants are being asked pay an \$18 registration fee to offset expenses. If the registration fee is a barrier to your participation or if you have any other questions, please email [jrcrstl@jrcrstl.org](mailto:jrcrstl@jrcrstl.org).

## Millions are About to Lose Healthcare. Congress Must Act Now.

Health care isn't a luxury, it's how people manage chronic illness, survive emergencies, and live with dignity.

And right now, that care is slipping out of reach for millions of families.

Congress failed to extend [Affordable Care Act \(ACA\) premium tax credits](#), a critical lifeline that has helped millions afford their health insurance. As a result, 24 million people are facing steep cost increases, and nearly five million people are at risk of losing coverage altogether because they can no longer afford it. **This is a crisis.**

To make matters worse, some lawmakers are trying to weaponize this battle for health care by including restrictions on abortion coverage. As Jewish advocates, we refuse to accept a future where families lose care, costs skyrocket, and reproductive freedom is treated as a bargaining chip.

[Click here](#) to tell Congress to put people over politics, and restore affordable health care. Take action now!



## Save the Date: Repro Shabbat 2026!



**Reproductive freedom is a Jewish value, and we're going to celebrate it!**

NCJWSTL is excited to once again partner with local synagogues for our annual Shabbat celebration that honors the Jewish value of reproductive freedom. It takes place annually on *Parshat Mishpatim*, the reading of which contains the verses commonly referenced as the foundation of Judaism's approach to reproductive health, rights and justice.

Please [click here](#) for more information. If you would like your congregation to participate, please contact Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org) and she will be happy to reach out to them.

## Volunteers Needed to Help Keep Abortion Legal in MO



We're beginning to organize around a critical issue: **protecting abortion rights in Missouri**. You may have heard that the Missouri Legislature is bringing abortion rights back to the ballot under the same name, **Amendment 3**. We anticipate a strong misinformation campaign from the opposition, and we need to be strategic in order to fight it. Although the new measure likely won't appear on the ballot until August or November 2026, [now is the time to act](#).

We are looking for volunteers to work the polls, knock on doors, educate our communities, and notarize absentee ballots. If you're interested in getting involved, please [click here](#) to sign up. **It's going to take all of us.**

For any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org).

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

### Protect the First Amendment! Join the Right to Read Coalition

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

Right to Read is a statewide coalition of 1,200 individuals and nearly 100 organizations. NCJWSTL is a founding coalition member.

- Censorship denies our First Amendment rights to access books that reflect our diverse community.
- Missouri laws and policies have led to book bans and harmful regulations on our libraries.
- President Trump's Executive Order threatens to eliminate \$3 million of Federal funds for Missouri's libraries.

Get the latest information at [MO Right to Read – Supporting Missouri's Libraries](#).



## Get FREE Emergency Contraception at NCJWSTL!



NCJWSTL is thrilled to announce that we have partnered with Beacon Reproductive Health Network 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, Beacon Reproductive Health Network, 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).

## 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 2026! 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 2026.



- \$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



When the Senate adjourned on December 18, no woman of color had been confirmed all year to serve as a lifetime federal judge. And that's because Trump didn't nominate any.

This president's commitment to appointing white judges remained steadfast last year. Sixteen more white men are now serving as lifetime judges — accounting for more than 60 percent of all judges confirmed in 2025. Seven white women were confirmed as well. Nearly 90 percent of Trump's pending judicial nominees are also white.

[Click here](#) to read Patrick McNeil's article from *Nomination Notes*, "Trump Could Appoint More White Men to the Federal Bench Than Women of Color Who've Ever Served."

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**

**NCJWSTL**

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis



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