



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

The 2026 Missouri Legislature is in 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.

Hot Topics Brunch with PROMO: The LGBTQ+ Landscape in Missouri

**Hot Topics
BRUNCH**

Sunday, March 8, 2026
9:30 - 11:00 AM
NCJWSTL Offices

promo
EQUALITY IN MISSOURI

We will discuss issues impacting the LGBTQ+ community and what to expect during the 2026 legislative session.

Please register.

When: Sunday, March 8 | 9:30 - 11:00 AM

Where: NCJWSTL

[RSVP Here](#)

LGBTQ+ Missourians are facing escalating attacks - from laws banning gender-affirming care for trans youth and restricting school participation, to ongoing harassment, discrimination, and violence. These harmful policies and rhetoric not only strip away rights but also fuel stigma, putting lives and mental health at risk. Missouri urgently needs protections that affirm dignity, safety, and equality for every LGBTQ+ person.

In addition to these escalating attacks, those wishing to ban abortion in Missouri are using trans children and their families as pawns in their misinformation campaign.

Join us for an important Hot Topic with Katy Erker-Lynch, Shira Berkowitz, and Lacie Jett from PROMO, who will discuss issues impacting the LGBTQ+ community, what has been happening so far in the 2026 legislative session, and how we can support the LGBTQ+ community.

Please [click here](#) to register for this event and stand with us in supporting equality and safety for Missouri's LGBTQ+ community.

Kick Off International Women's History Month with NCJW and the St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum



When: Sunday, March 1 | 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (meet and greet/brunch) & 1:00 - 3:00 (movie screening)

Where: Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum

[RSVP Here](#)

Join the Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum and NCJWSTL for an exclusive VIP Brunch and Meet & Greet with acclaimed filmmaker and historian Heather Dune Macadam, director of *999: The Forgotten Girls*, moderated by Dr. Fran Levine.

Guests will enjoy a curated brunch and an intimate conversation with Macadam about the film, her groundbreaking research, and the untold story of the first Jewish women deported to Auschwitz. This limited-attendance experience offers meaningful dialogue and a deeper connection to this powerful and important work.

Following the brunch, the Mendel Rosenberg Film Series will present a screening of *999: The Forgotten Girls* at 1:00 p.m.

The cost to attend the brunch is \$18. Tickets are limited, so please [click here](#) to register ASAP. If you would like to attend the screening only, there is no cost, but you must register by [clicking here](#).

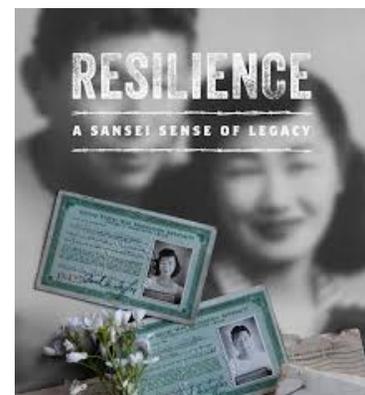
Fighting Bigotry & Hatred: A Sansei Sense of Legacy

When: Thursday, March 5 | 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Where: Mirowitz Center

[RSVP Here](#)

The St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum's new exhibition, *Resilience – A Sansei Sense of Legacy*, explores the perspectives of third-generation Japanese Americans through themes of memory, silence, wartime incarceration, survival, and identity. Through personal stories and historical context, the exhibit examines how the legacy of injustice continues to shape families and communities today.



A panel discussion will further illuminate these themes. Speakers include Robb Nelson, Exhibitions Coordinator at the Museum, and Wendy Roll, President of the St. Louis Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL). Robin Hattori, member of the

JACL Board of Directors, will moderate, and Amy Moorman, the Museum's Director of Archives & Collections, will provide introductory remarks.

There is no cost to register, but RSVP required. To register, [click here](#), call **(314) 733-9813**, or email program@mirowitzcenter.org. Part of Mirowitz Center's "Fighting Bigotry & Hatred" series. Co-sponsored by Japanese American Citizens League, ADL Heartland, American Jewish Committee, Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis, National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis, and St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum.

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.

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.

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



The first year of Trump's second term marked major blows for reproductive healthcare. Medicaid funding cuts forced about 50 Planned Parenthood clinics to close throughout the U.S. and blocked 1.1 million Planned Parenthood patients on Medicaid from using their insurance to pay for reproductive healthcare. Twenty-three independent abortion clinics throughout the country also shut down in 2025, according to Abortion Care Network's annual report.

[Click here](#) to read Ava Slocum's article from Ms. Magazine, "The Next Phase of the Abortion Wars: Targeting Pills, Helpers and Patients."

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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