



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.

THIS WEEK! Two Upcoming Repro Shabbat Events at Congregation Shaare Emeth



Reproductive freedom is a Jewish value, and we're going to celebrate it! There are two upcoming events at Shaare Emeth that we wanted to make you aware of:

- 1. Friday, February 13 at 6:00 PM:** The speaker will break down the facts about the new version of Amendment 3 and share what you need to know to protect abortion rights in Missouri.
- 2. Saturday, February 14 at 9:00 AM:** Join members of the Access MO Clergy Advisory Board for an interfaith panel discussion about reproductive rights and beliefs from different faiths.

Please park in the north parking lot and enter through the North Lobby. Coffee, tea, and light breakfast snacks will be served at 9:00 AM. Conversation begins at 9:30 AM.

Please [click here](#) to register.

ACCESS MO
ACCESS FOR ALL MISSOURIANS

JOIN US ON 2/14!

FAITH PERSPECTIVES

AN INTERFAITH CONVERSATION ABOUT REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

WITH REVEREND KEVIN CAMERON, DR. SAFIYAH KAI EL-AMIN,
RABBI ANDREA GOLDSTEIN, REVEREND DEBORAH KRAUSE
+ RABBI SUSAN TALVE

Moderated by Access MO President + Co-Founder Dana Sandweiss

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 AT 9 AM
CONGREGATION SHAARE EMETH

Please park in the north parking lot and enter through the north lobby.
Coffee, tea, and light breakfast snacks will be served at 9 am.
Conversation begins at 9:30 am.
Sign up at bit.ly/interfaith-feb14

Hosted by Access MO, NCJWSTL + Congregation Shaare Emeth

Missouri Ballot Initiative 101: How it Works and How You Can Help

RESPECTMOVTERS

When: Wednesday, February 18 | 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Where: NCJWSTL

[RSVP Here](#)

Join NCJWSTL, Kol Rinah, JCRC and Shaare Emeth for a vital educational program on Missouri's citizen ballot initiative process, and what's at stake if we don't protect it. Learn how the [Respect Missouri Voters Amendment](#) would safeguard democracy by preventing politicians from overturning voter-approved initiatives, attacking citizens' ability to use the ballot process, and misleading voters with confusing ballot language.

This presentation will be held at the NCJWSTL building, with volunteer training immediately following. **Come learn about the initiative and take action to defend Missouri voters' rights.** We need to gather 300,000 signatures throughout the state to qualify for the ballot. Won't you join us?

Please [Click here](#) to register and help us empower Missouri voters!

Save Our Democracy: Stop the SAVE Act!

Congress is set to hear the [Safeguard American Voter Eligibility \(SAVE\) Act](#) tomorrow, and as Jewish advocates, we have a responsibility to uphold and pursue tzedek, or justice, above all else – and ensuring equal access to the ballot box is the foundation of a just democracy.

The SAVE Act would require all voters to present a birth certificate, passport, or one of a select few other



documents each time they register or re-register to vote. This bill also eliminates or upends key methods of voter registration such as registration by mail.

What could this legislation do if passed? Millions of Americans cannot easily access the documents the SAVE Act requires and without them, would not be able to register to vote — and therefore would be barred from voting entirely. This includes scores of younger voters, voters of color, elderly voters, and millions of married women who changed their legal name after getting married, meaning their name does not match their birth certificate.

The SAVE Act is dangerous. It will disenfranchise millions of citizens and will fundamentally disrupt democracy's sacred promise of ensuring every voice is heard.

[Click here](#) to urge your lawmakers to save our democracy and vote **NO on the dangerous SAVE Act!**

Volunteers Needed to Help Keep Abortion Legal in MO



As we persevere in our commitment to protect abortion rights in Missouri, we are looking for volunteers to work the polls, knock doors, educate our communities, and notarize absentee ballots.

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 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



In Missouri, nearly 51,000 people dropped off the Affordable Care Act rolls from January 2025 through the end of the 2026 open enrollment period, the latest data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services show. Nearly 366,000 people enrolled this year, compared to 417,000 enrollees in January 2025. But experts say that doesn't tell the full story.

[Click here](#) to read Meg Cunningham's article from the Missouri Independent, "As ACA Subsidies Expire, Thousands of Missourians Drop Coverage or Downgrade Plans."

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



National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis

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Ethics and Service*

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