

# The NCJW Reproductive Justice Program Bank

Welcome to the National Council of Jewish Women Reproductive Justice Program Bank. This resource catalogues the work that NCJW sections and leaders are doing to advance reproductive justice in their communities. It is divided into two sections:

1. [Advocacy Efforts](#)
2. [Education/Awareness Efforts](#)



Please use this resource to gather ideas and connect with other members!

To add your efforts to this resource, please fill out this [form](#).

Learn more about NCJW’s Reproductive Justice Initiative at [my.ncjw.org/rjActionKit](http://my.ncjw.org/rjActionKit). If you have any questions, please contact NCJW Grassroots Associate Leanne Gale at [leanne@ncjwdc.org](mailto:leanne@ncjwdc.org).

## 1. Advocacy Efforts

Legislative advocacy on both a local, state, and national level is central to NCJW’s work to change policy and affect social change. In our reproductive justice work, it is imperative that we pursue advocacy efforts in collaboration with coalition partners. More importantly, we must strive to work with partners who represent the communities most impacted by the policies we are seeking to change or create.

*Want to add your advocacy efforts to this list? Fill out [this form](#) and we’ll get back to you!*

Type of Action	Description	Coalition Partner(s)	Contact
Lobby Day	NCJW Minneapolis participated in a statewide Pro-Choice Lobby Day in with coalition partners from across the state.	Pro-Choice Resources Planned Parenthood NARAL NAPAWF RCRC	Beth Gendler <a href="mailto:bgendler@ncjwmpls.org">bgendler@ncjwmpls.org</a>

		LSRJ Creating a Clinician Corps	
Phone Banking	<b>NCJW Greater New Orleans</b> helped coordinate a phone bank to reach out to state senators in opposition to a bill that would extend the time women in Louisiana currently have to wait before accessing abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours, and in opposition to state defunding of Planned Parenthood.	Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom	Michelle Erenberg <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a>
Advocacy Newspaper Ad	<b>NCJW Essex</b> published a hybrid newspaper ad and advocacy postcard in their local paper to mobilize the public around the EACH Woman Act. They encouraged members of the public to cut out the add and send it to their representatives.	All* Above All	Mandi Perlmutter <a href="mailto:mperlmutter@ncjwessex.org">mperlmutter@ncjwessex.org</a>
City-Wide Campaign	<b>NCJW Greater New Orleans</b> joined a city-wide campaign to pressure the City of New Orleans and Department of Public works to remove anti-abortion banners sponsored by Louisiana Right to Life from the street lights on a central New Orleans street, imposing one religious view on everyone.	Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom	Michelle Erenberg <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a>
Legislative Visit	<b>NCJW New York</b> met with Representative Hakeem Jeffries to	All Above All	Yael Reisman <a href="mailto:YReisman@ncjwny.org">YReisman@ncjwny.org</a>

	encourage him to sign on to the EACH Woman Act, and in the same meeting, he committed to sign-on.		
State Legislation	<b>NCJW Tennessee</b> is worked with Healthy and Free Tennessee to oppose statewide legislation that would incarcerate women for using drugs while pregnant instead of helping them seek recovery and support. They attended a conference on the topic. Following their advocacy, a bill to permanently extend this type of legislation was defeated in committee.	Healthy and Free Tennessee	LaQuita Martin <a href="mailto:qmartin@att.net">qmartin@att.net</a>
Nationwide Economic Justice Day of Action	<b>NCJW Chicago North-Shore, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Columbus, and Miami</b> participated in the Fight for \$15 day of action to raise the minimum wage. All explicitly tied their work to NCJW's commitment to reproductive justice, noting the intersections between income & access to safe reproductive health care, and noting as well the reproductive justice imperative that all families have the right to raise their children with dignity.	All Above All Fight for \$15	Leanne Gale <a href="mailto:leanne@ncjwdc.org">leanne@ncjwdc.org</a>
Action Alerts	<b>NCJW Florida</b> mobilized advocates using advocacy updates and action alerts (some by NCJW and some by coalition partners) to fight back against	Planned Parenthood	Linda Geller-Schwartz <a href="mailto:lndgellerschwartz@gmail.com">lndgellerschwartz@gmail.com</a>

	a range of anti-choice legislation moving through the state legislature.		
Advocacy Strategy Briefing	<b>NCJW Chicago</b> held a call with the director of advocacy at Planned Parenthood Illinois to learn about upcoming challenges to reproductive rights, health, and justice in the state, as part of the section's work to develop an overall reproductive justice strategy for the year.	Planned Parenthood	Donna Fishman <a href="mailto:donnafishman16@gmail.com">donnafishman16@gmail.com</a>
Defending State Legislation against Lawsuit	<b>NCJW California</b> sent out an action alert urging members to speak out in support of the Reproductive FACT Act, a bill they helped successfully pass the state legislature. It targets crisis pregnancy centers, requiring all facilities providing pregnancy-related care to disclose if they are licensed and to share the full range of reproductive options available to individuals by law. The moment the bill was signed into law it was confronted by a challenge in the courts.	California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom	Claire Lipschultz <a href="mailto:ncjwcaclaire@gmail.com">ncjwcaclaire@gmail.com</a>
State Legislation	<b>NCJW Ohio</b> testified at the state legislature opposing defunding Planned Parenthood as well as a bill that would ban abortion at 20 weeks.		Susan Reis <a href="mailto:sixreis@gmail.com">sixreis@gmail.com</a>

<p>State Legislation</p>	<p><b>NCJW California</b> pushed for, and ultimately celebrated the signing of several bills that they supported in the state legislature, including AB 775 – the Reproductive FACT Act, demanding transparency from any clinic providing pregnancy related care. The bill targeted Crisis Pregnancy Centers, anti-choice clinics that are often unlicensed. Specifically, the legislation would require licensed facilities that provide services related to pregnancy and family planning to let women know about how and where they could access affordable and timely abortion, contraception, and prenatal care services. And, a bill was signed ensuring lactation accommodations for students who are young parents.</p>	<p>California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom</p>	<p>Claire Lipschultz  <a href="mailto:ncjwcaclaire@gmail.com">ncjwcaclaire@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>Protest</p>	<p><b>NCJW Seattle</b> protested outside the Swedish Hospital in Seattle, which no longer provides abortion care to patients after merging with a Catholic Hospital.</p>	<p>SEIU and NARAL</p>	<p>Leanne Gale  <a href="mailto:leanne@ncjwdc.org">leanne@ncjwdc.org</a></p>
<p>State Legislation - Birth Control Coverage</p>	<p><b>NCJW New York</b> signed on in support of the Comprehensive Contraceptive Coverage Act in the state legislature.</p>	<p>New York Civil Liberties Union, NOW, Planned Parenthood, NARAL Pro-Choice NY, Raising Women’s Voices - NY</p>	<p>Yael Reisman  <a href="mailto:YReisman@ncjwny.org">YReisman@ncjwny.org</a></p>

<p>Lobby Day</p>	<p><b>NCJW Florida</b> advocated against harmful anti-abortion legislation in the state legislature in over a dozen lobby visits. They specifically focused on a 24 hour mandatory delay bill, which would most impact young women, women of color, and women struggling to make ends meet. They also encouraged their lawmakers to address health coverage for low-income Floridians given the legislature’s failure to expand Medicaid. To follow up, NCJW Florida sent weekly action alerts to members to take action on these bills throughout the legislative session.</p>	<p>Planned Parenthood</p>	<p>Linda Geller-Schwartz, <a href="mailto:Indgellerschwartz@gmail.com">Indgellerschwartz@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>Ballot Initiative - Abortion Restrictions</p>	<p><b>NCJW Nashville</b> <a href="#">helped lead a campaign</a> to oppose Amendment 1, a harmful ballot initiative designed to make it easier for Tennessee lawmakers to pass legislative restrictions on abortion</p>	<p>The “Vote No on 1” Campaign included 25 groups across the state, including <a href="#">Sister Reach</a>, a women-of-color led RJ organization</p>	<p>LaQuita Martin <a href="mailto:lmiminc@att.net">lmiminc@att.net</a></p>
<p>City Council Resolution - Hyde Amendment</p>	<p><b>NCJW Seattle</b> helped pass a Seattle city council resolution urging Congress to lift the <a href="#">Hyde Amendment</a> and similar coverage bans on abortion</p>	<p><b>All* Above All</b> Planned Parenthood Legal Voice NARAL Pro-Choice America The CAIR Project</p>	<p>Cheryl Berenson <a href="mailto:randdbear@me.com">randdbear@me.com</a></p>
<p>State Legislation - Admitting Privileges</p>	<p><b>NCJW Greater New Orleans</b> helped lead a campaign to oppose proposed legislation that would require admitting privileges for abortion providers</p>	<p>The Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, including Planned Parenthood, Law Students for Reproductive Justice, and</p>	<p>Michelle Erenberg <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a></p>

		Medical Students for Choice, among others	
State Agency Rules - Abortion Provider and Clinic Regulations	<b>NCJW Greater New Orleans</b> helped coordinate an emergency response to regulations proposed by Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals that would impose restrictions on abortion providers and clinics	The Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, including Planned Parenthood, Law Students for Reproductive Justice, and Medical Students for Choice, among others	Michelle Erenberg <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a>

## 2. Education/Awareness Efforts

Education and awareness programs allow us to build our movements for social change. In our reproductive justice work, it is imperative that we design and implement education and awareness programs in collaboration with coalition partners, seeking to center and elevate the voices of communities most impacted by reproductive injustice.

*Want to add your education/awareness efforts to this list? Fill out [this form](#) and we'll get back to you!*

Type of Action	Description	Coalition Partner(s)	Contact
National Weekend of Prayer	<b>NCJW Texas Sections</b> participated in the National Weekend of Prayer for Reproductive Justice the weekend before oral arguments in <i>Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt</i> in February 2016. Their participation was covered in <a href="#">Elite Daily</a> and <a href="#">Think Progress</a> .	The Religious Institute	Leanne Gale <a href="mailto:leanne@ncjwdc.org">leanne@ncjwdc.org</a>
Educational Panel	<b>NCJW Cleveland</b> held a panel on infant mortality, given that Ohio has among the worst infant mortality rates in the country, with a disproportionate impact on people of color. The panel kicked off an advocacy initiative to combat infant mortality in Ohio.	Speakers included representatives of the county board of health and a local medical center.	Susan Reis <a href="mailto:sixreis@gmail.com">sixreis@gmail.com</a>

Op-Ed	<b>San Antonio</b> published an <a href="#">op-ed</a> on <i>Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt</i> from the perspective of a pro-choice Jewish woman living in Texas in the San Antonio Express News.		Leanne Gale <a href="mailto:leanne@ncjwdc.org">leanne@ncjwdc.org</a>
Film Screening	<b>NCJW Essex</b> held a sold-out screening of <i>Trapped</i> , a new documentary film about the impact of TRAP laws on clinics, patients, and providers across the country. They hosted the filmmakers to speak afterward.	Montclair Film Festival	Phoebe Bollinger <a href="mailto:pmpartinc@aol.com">pmpartinc@aol.com</a>
Op-Ed	<b>NCJW Sacramento</b> published an <a href="#">op-ed</a> about the importance of maintain safe, legal, accessible abortion in the SacBee.		Claire Lipschultz <a href="mailto:clairelipschultz@gmail.com">clairelipschultz@gmail.com</a>
Letter to the Editor	<b>NCJW Essex County</b> had a <a href="#">Letter to the Editor</a> published on protecting reproductive rights and health in NJ.com.		Mandi Perlmutter <a href="mailto:mperlmutter@ncjwessex.org">mperlmutter@ncjwessex.org</a>
Op-Ed	<b>NCJW Minneapolis</b> published an <a href="#">op-ed</a> on the importance of passing the EACH Woman Act and safeguarding <i>Roe v. Wade</i> in the MinnPost.		Leanne Gale <a href="mailto:leanne@ncjwdc.org">leanne@ncjwdc.org</a>
Salon Conversations	<b>NCJW New York</b> co-sponsored a series of reproductive justice salons targeting young people & Jewish millennials.	Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, the Religious Institute, and Planned Parenthood	Chelsea Garbell <a href="mailto:chelseaigarbell@gmail.com">chelseaigarbell@gmail.com</a>
Panel & Group Discussion	<b>NCJW Minneapolis</b> hosted a dinner discussion entitled "A Conversation About Race" on how our identities impact our work as advocates for justice, & how race plays a role in NCJW's social justice work. Speakers included Dr. Nekima-Levy Pounds, award-winning professor of law at the University	NAACP Minneapolis, Minnesota Second Chance Coalition	Beth Gendler <a href="mailto:bgendler@ncjwmppls.org">bgendler@ncjwmppls.org</a>



	<p>of St. Thomas School of Law, founding Director of the Community Justice Project, and President of the NAACP Minneapolis Chapter, as well as Sarah Catherine Walker, founder of the Minnesota Second Chance Coalition, and Rafael Lev Forbush, an entrepreneur and active member of the Twin Cities Jewish community. The event broadly addressed topics of race and social justice, with an eye toward intersectionality reproductive justice.</p>		
Interactive Group Discussion	<p><b>NCJW Minneapolis</b> &amp; Pro-Choice resources held an interactive group discussion on the reproductive justice framework. They highlighted the importance of amplifying the leadership of women of color and recognizing police brutality as a reproductive justice issue.</p>	Pro-Choice Resources	<p>Beth Gendler  <a href="mailto:bgendler@ncjwmpls.org">bgendler@ncjwmpls.org</a></p>
Panel	<p><b>NCJW Louisiana</b> presented on a panel sponsored by the Center for Reproductive Rights entitled, "Evaluating Priorities: How Did Women's and Children's Health and Well-Being Fare in the 2015 Legislative Session?"</p>	Center for Reproductive Rights	<p>Michelle Erenberg,  <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a></p>
Panel/Happy Hour	<p><b>NCJW Greater New Orleans</b>, as part of their social justice happy hour series, "Moving the Ball Forward," put together an all-woman panel featuring some of Louisiana's most fierce professional advocates on issues of reproductive health, rights, and justice. The panel was held at a local bar during happy hour and successfully engaged women in their 20s and 30s.</p>	Law Students for Reproductive Justice, Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom	<p>Michelle Erenberg,  <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a></p>
Focus Group	<p><b>NCJW Greater New Orleans</b>, as part of the Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, is</p>	Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom	<p>Michelle Erenberg  <a href="mailto:merenberg21@gmail.com">merenberg21@gmail.com</a></p>

	<p>participating in a focus group to determine how best to transition to the reproductive justice framework and partner with women-of-color led organizations.</p>		
Panel	<p><b>NCJW Essex</b> held a panel entitled “<i>Roe</i> and Religion” to explore the Supreme Court decision <i>Roe v. Wade</i> in the context of multiple faith traditions, as well as the more recent <i>Burwell v. Hobby Lobby</i> decision. Panelists addressed how restrictions on abortion and contraceptive access impact different communities in different ways, who is most severely impacted, and how people of faith can take action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Planned Parenthood</li> <li>-National Organization of Women</li> <li>-Blue Wave NJ</li> <li>-New Jersey Abortion Access Fund</li> <li>-Catholics for Choice</li> </ul>	<p>Phoebe Bollinger  <a href="mailto:pmpartinc@aol.com">pmpartinc@aol.com</a></p>