ADVOCACY

Your Voice CAN Make A Difference
SPEAK OUT!

Advocacy is the process by which we, NCJW/LA as an organization, speak up on behalf of the issues that matter most to us. And, speak up we have and speak up we will! We realize that as voters and constituents, we have the power to influence our legislators. Speak Out! Make a phone call, send an email, and schedule appointments—it is so easy to get involved.

With the election behind us, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Over the next few months we will be educating and presenting programs on issues that affect and impact all of us.

In January we presented our annual community program “Abortion Under Siege.” The panel discussed today's challenges on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. Our moderator was Michele Kort, Senior Editor of Ms. Magazine. We were fortunate to have Sandra Fluke, Women’s Rights Advocate who was refused by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to testify on the importance of requiring insurance plans to cover birth control on our panel.

February 14th, Valentine’s Day, was the appropriate day to partner with the V-Day’s One Billion Rising, an event against domestic violence. Our program “Dating Without Danger: Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Intervention” addressed the issues of teen violence that continues to grow in our communities. Our amazing panel included (from left to right): Barrie Levy, Author, UCLA Lecturer & Therapist in Private Practice; Ava Rose, LCSW, NCJW/LA Director of Women Helping Women; Miguel A. Perez, Prevention Programs Coordinator for Sojourn &

(Above, pictured left to right) Michele Kort, Senior Editor, Ms. Magazine and the Moderator for this event; Dr. Arthur A. Fleisher II, MD, FACOG; Serena Josel, Public Affairs Director, Planned Parenthood LA; Sandra Fluke, Woman’s Rights Advocate; and Reina G. Martinez, Women’s Advisory Board Member, City of West Hollywood and Member of Hollywood NOW speaking at NCJW/LA on “Abortion Under Siege: Discussing today’s challenges on the anniversary of Roe v Wade.”

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Male Violence Prevention Project; Lindsay Horvath, Regional Coordinator, One Billion Rising; Terra Slavin, DV Lead Staff Attorney for LA Gay & Lesbian Center; and Patti Higgins, Executive Director, Peace Over Violence.

On March 13th, California’s Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones joined a distinguished panel of medical professionals along with Political Reporter Dave Bryan of KCAL Prime9 News and CBS2 who moderated the program to educate us on the possibility of California being the second state in the nation, after Vermont, to become a single payer state.

We plan on continuing our venture onto the school campuses to register as many eligible students as we can to vote.

Promote the Vote. Protect the Vote.

This year we will be continuing our much acclaimed film series. The first film, “The Invisible War,” was a ground breaking investigation into one of America’s most disturbing secrets: the epidemic of rape within the US Military. It focused on the powerful stories of several young veterans. It was a moving examination of the staggering personal and societal costs of these assaults. Amy Ziering, the award winning producer, spoke after our first showing.

The next films will be “Carbon Nation,” “The Revisionaries and La Rafle.” If you are interested in underwriting future documentaries please contact Ruth Williams, Director of Advocacy at 323-852-8503.

Speak Out!
Make a phone call, send an email, and schedule appointments—it is so easy to get involved.
As many as 70% of women around the world experience physical or sexual violence from men in their lifetime (U.N. Women). In the U.S, more than 600 women are sexually assaulted every day (National Organization of Women), and 1 in 3 adolescents is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner (LoveIsRespect.org). In California, as many as 1 in 20 children are exposed to domestic violence in their home (CPEDV). Most victims do not disclose that they are being abused, and it is estimated that only 20% seek medical assistance (National Crime Victimization Survey).

But at Women Helping Women, (WHW) we cannot be silent when our friends, neighbors, mothers, sisters, and children are being hurt. That's why every day, we speak out against family and relationship violence, we speak up for victims and survivors, and we offer direct help — to women and men, children and teens, who have been impacted by abuse, violence and trauma — through our community collaborations and our counseling services.

While many of our services focus on women, we know that in order to be effective, violence prevention efforts must include men. That's why this spring, WHW is partnering with the Male Violence Prevention Project (MVPP) and the City of West Hollywood to launch a series of dialogues to explore how cultural expectations about masculinity contribute to interpersonal violence. Based on the “bystander model” developed by activist and educator Jackson Katz, MVPP challenges parents, teachers, coaches, and community leaders to explore and change their own attitudes about masculinity, and to speak up and speak out against social norms and biases that promote violence.

In addition to our violence prevention work, WHW offers hope and healing to individuals and families who have experienced abuse and interpersonal violence with long-term, free/low-fee counseling services that are known to be effective in empowering survivors to heal, create safety, and end the cycle of abuse. Because trauma experiences can be difficult to put into words, our clinical social workers often use art and play therapy to support survivors in their healing. This spring, thanks to support from the City of West Hollywood, we will be offering clients who have survived child abuse the opportunity to create t-shirts for a Clothesline Project art exhibit in April. By displaying these powerful t-shirts in a public space, WHW is helping to break the silence that keeps so many trauma victims from breaking the chains of abuse.

“We live begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Clothesline Project gives clients the space to express their pain, grief, outrage and resilience through art. And by displaying their t-shirts, we are speaking up with them, speaking out against violence, and joining with them in healing.

We invite everyone in the NCJW/LA community to join us at a special reception on April 17th, to witness these powerful stories, and learn about our trauma-focused work. We hope you will join us in speaking out against relationship violence, and show your support by making a donation to WHW, or bringing art or play therapy materials from the WHW wish list. What better way to commemorate the Passover season than by remembering that as long as there are individuals suffering among us, none of us is truly free.

Acting Talkline Coordinator Rachel Woodhull, MSW (pictured right) and new WHW Therapist Jenny Blair, MSW (pictured left) offer attachment- and trauma-focused play therapy for their child clients.
NCJW/LA announces its newest department: **Community Engagement and Special Programs** with Maya Paley as the Director. This department is embarking on a brand new program and we couldn’t be more excited!

We are starting things off with the **Women’s Action Training Project**, co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood, the League of Women Voters, and the City of West Hollywood. This training course for women aims to increase the capacity, skills, and confidence of women and men activists advocating for the rights and needs of women, children, and families. The trainings will include op-ed writing, lobbying, message presenting, social media activism, and media relations. Some of our expert trainers include advocates Sandra Fluke, Heidi Shink, and Serena Josel.

Workshops for Women on Sunday April 28, 2013. Women of various generations and backgrounds will gather to discuss transitions we deal with and to learn practical tools to make positive changes in our lives. With professional facilitators leading three breakout sessions, there is a place for every woman to discuss issues important to her and to gain tools and support in the process.

The next Jewish Women’s Theatre salon series takes place on Saturday, March 23rd and Sunday, March 24th at 7:30 pm. The show is called “God Plans, and Woman Laughs” and tickets are 20% off for NCJW/LA members.

**Mark your calendars**

**For Sunday, November 3, 2013** for the **Jewish Women’s Conference**. Be on the lookout for updates on speakers, panels, and programs at this year’s conference. To register for programs go to www.jwsc.org or contact maya@ncjwla.org.

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**Women’s Action Training Project**

Want to learn the tools to become an effective advocate for women, children, and families? Sign up today for this program. Limited space available.

- $15 per workshop or $70 for all five workshops

  - **March 17:** Social Media for Advocacy
  - **May 5:** Learn to Lobby
  - **June 2:** Taking Charge of Media Relations
  - **August 4:** Presenting Your Message
  - **September 15:** How to Write an Op-Ed

All Sunday programs include lunch and are from 10 am–1 pm. Monday’s program on 9/16 is from 6–9 pm and includes dinner. Attendees of all five workshops receive a certificate of program completion.

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**Save the Date!**

**3rd Annual Jewish Women’s Conference**

November 3, 2013

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**Council Thrift Shop eBay Store:**

**The World Is Watching**

Our Council Thrift store has given us a new motto: we help locally and sell globally. In eight short months we have reached power seller status from over 4,000 happy customers who have given us a 5 star rating. Now, shoppers from around the world, from Japan to Russia to Australia, have discovered our treasure trove of clothing, shoes, accessories and collectables, and they have written comments such as: “Thank you so much!! Great Service, Excellent eBayer!!” With a few keystrokes they can dress like a Hollywood movie star wherever they live: Prada, Gucci, Bruno Magli, Christian Louboutain, Paul Smith, St. John, Yohji Yamamoto, Marc Jacobs, Hermes…. are waiting to be discovered and given a starring role. Want to wear Ozzy Osbourne’s leather coat? Not a problem!

For those who prefer to dress up their homes, we have had Chagall, Limoges, Tiffany and Waterford to add beauty to their interior décor. We know we are serving our customers well. “Wish all dealers were like this one. Fast and good service. A+++++,” wrote an enthusiastic shopper.

Our goal for this year is $1,000,000, and with fabulous goods donated by our fabulous donors, great staff, and satisfied customers, we know we will succeed.

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Our goal for this year is $1,000,000, and with fabulous goods donated by our fabulous donors, great staff, and satisfied customers, we know we will succeed.

Reaching our goal will help us continue to meet the needs of our community through Women Helping Children Art & Literacy Programs for Youth and Women Helping Women Community Counseling & Support Services. Donate today to make a difference 800-400-6259.
Women Helping Children Celebrates an Evening of Youth and the Arts

Earlier this year, Women Helping Children hosted an Art Exhibit at Council House featuring works from NCJW/LA’s Art Pals, Art Bridges Culture, McAlister Teen Mom Art Education Program and the Alexandria House Teen Program.

The WHC Committee hosted an Opening Reception on Thursday, February 7th. The NCJW/LA Cookbook Committee generously donated and prepared appetizers and desserts for the reception using recipes featured in the NCJW/LA Cookbook. Participants from the McAlister Teen Mom Art Education program and the Alexandria House Teen program attended the event as well as community members and volunteers.

On Tuesday, April 23rd NCJW/LA will continue to promote a love of literacy and will be distributing books on World Book Night, an annual celebration dedicated to spreading the love of reading, person to person. World Book Night is about giving books to children and encouraging them to read. But it is also more than that: it’s about people, communities and connections, about reaching out to others and touching lives in the simplest of ways—through the sharing of stories. NCJW/LA distributed books in 2012 and is proud to participate in World Book Night again this year.

Save the Date!

Join us for an evening of Legendary Bingo benefiting Women Helping Children's Art and Literacy Programs for Youth on Wednesday, May 1st from 7:00pm-8:30pm at Hamburger Mary’s in West Hollywood (8288 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood). Win great prizes and auction items!

$20 suggested donation at the door. Please call Melissa, Director of Women Helping Children at 323-852-8505 or email melissa@ncjwla.org for more information about the event, donations and sponsorship opportunities.

Spring Cleaning?
Donate your Gently Used Children’s Books to the WHC Department

The love of learning begins with fostering a love of reading. By allowing children to choose their own reading materials, they also learn to take ownership of their own reading success. For many of the children we serve, the books they receive through our Women Helping Children programs are often the first books they can call their own. The opportunity to build their own home libraries creates enthusiasm for reading and encourages a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

Year round, the Women Helping Children donates over 3,000 books to children each year through the NCJW/LA's Book Giveaway Program. We collect gently used children's books here at Council House. The books are labeled, organized by genre, and then donated for book giveaways at various locations.

If you’re interested in donating new or gently used children's books or volunteering to help label and sort books, please contact WHC Program Assistant Zenina Reshad at 323-852-8814 or zenina@ncjwla.org.

NCJW/LA Book Giveaway at Alexandria House
We are married and single, mothers and daughters. Join us to make an impact, make new friends and aid our community through NCJW/LA community service projects.

We are very excited to announce that a new chapter has begun in the Santa Clarita Valley. If you are interested in becoming an active member of this dynamic group of women or with our other locations, please contact Carrie Jacoves, Director of Membership & Outreach 323-852-8512 or carrie@ncjwla.org for more information.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

City: all meetings are held on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm – locations to be announced.

April 18 Art project TBD
May 5 A special meeting on a Sunday morning to shop at our Fairfax Thrift Store for clients of the Alexandria House
June 13 Summer Fun Packages (assembling together: bubbles, sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, etc. to be donated to children.)

Agoura Hills: all meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm at the home of Cheryl Abrams
April 23 Baby baskets
May 21 Children's activity bags

Valley/Vista Val: all meetings are held on Monday afternoons at 1:00pm at Temple Judea
April 22 Special project to be announced
For more information about Valley/Vista Val WMD please contact Carrie at 323-852-8512 or carrie@ncjwla.org.

Member News and Events

The Life Member Tea was held at the Council House on Sunday March 3rd, chaired by Deborah Berger. Chef Nico Chessa, Executive Chef at Valentino Restaurant in Santa Monica spoke about the inspiration food has on his life.

Thank you to Amy and Jeffrey P. Straus for sponsoring the wonderful afternoon.

For more information about becoming a Life Member please contact Carrie Jacoves, Director of Membership and Outreach 323-852-8512 or carrie@ncjwla.org.

Annual Meeting

Join us for the NCJW/LA Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 2nd at 11:00am. The 2013–14 Board of Directors and Officers will be installed. There will be special recognition of our volunteers and donors.

Vista Val Division

Meetings of NCJW/LA’s Vista Val Division in the Valley are held on Mondays at Temple Judea, 5429 Lindley Avenue, Tarzana.

Each Monday offers a variety of opportunities to socialize, learn and be part of the NCJW/LA membership through the following Special Interest Groups: Woman to Woman, Movie Group, Book Group, World Affairs and Jewish Studies. More information is available in Vista Val’s monthly bulletin.

The General Meeting is held the third Monday of each month at 9:30am and includes a speaker. For more information on Vista Val’s meetings and activities please contact Carrie Jacoves, Director of Membership and Outreach 323-852-8512 or carrie@ncjwla.org.

Join Vista Val for its Annual Spring Luncheon on Monday, May 6th at 11:30am. It will be held at The Sportsman’s Lodge, 12833 Ventura Boulevard in Studio City. Entertainment will be provided by Klezmer Juice, described as “a new generation of Jewish soul musicians.” The cost is $50 per person with proceeds supporting NCJW/LA’s Women Helping Children Art & Literacy Programs for Youth.

For more information, contact Gerry Moscowitz at gmoscowitz@aol.com or 818-654-9265.

For more information about Vista Vel please contact Carrie at 323-852-8512 or carrie@ncjwla.org.
**Condolences**

Our sincerest sympathy to the families of the following members who recently passed away:

- Thelma Alper
- Thelma Altshul
- Minnie Crystal
- Dorothy Gould
- Dale Halperin

*May their memory be a blessing.*

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**Tributes**

National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles is grateful to all those who support our vital community services through Tributes. This is a wonderful way to honor and recognize the people in your life.

**In Memory of**

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<td>Thelma Alper</td>
<td>Jean and Herb Aaron</td>
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<td>Thelma Alper</td>
<td>Betty Neymark</td>
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<td>Beatrice Bierer</td>
<td>Joan and Jim LeBel</td>
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<td>Connie Bravo</td>
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<td>Connie Bravo</td>
<td>Ruth Williams</td>
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<td>Steve Comroe</td>
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<td>Arlene Wilkoff and Janice Florez</td>
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<td>Isabel Goldstein</td>
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<td>Dorothy Gould</td>
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<td>Alan Hayden</td>
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<td>June Lang</td>
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<td>Maddy Nathan</td>
<td>David Perrott</td>
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<td>Anne and Sam Sysler</td>
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<td>Luba Tabacznik</td>
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<td>Lynda Gail Terrian</td>
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**In Honor of**

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<td>Dawn, Mike, Mila, and Maeve Bary</td>
<td>NCJW/LA Board and Staff</td>
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<td>Asa Brown</td>
<td>Deborah Berger</td>
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<td>Asa Brown</td>
<td>Beverly Mushinsky</td>
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<td>David Feldman</td>
<td>Sylvia Schulman, Samuel Schulman</td>
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<td>Dr. Edward Feldman</td>
<td>Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Leonora Fischel</td>
<td>Sylvia Schulman, Samuel Schulman</td>
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<td>Cipra Nemeth</td>
<td>Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Rita Norton</td>
<td>Nancy Recht</td>
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<td>Heidi Shink</td>
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**Get Well**

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<td>Ruth and Harris Zeitzew</td>
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*Commemorate a celebration, landmark, or memorial with a tax-deductible gift.*

To send a Tribute,
Call 323-852-8518 or visit www.ncjwla.org/support-us/tributes.
Membership Form

NCJW/LA's mission is to create social change through our advocacy and social and community services. We cannot do this alone. We appreciate your support as a member. Please take time to invite a family member or friend to join.

Rates and Levels:
- Life Member $350
- Annual Member $60
- Senior Member (65+) $35
- Full-Time College Student Member $18
- Couple $100

Name ____________________________________________
Amount enclosed: __________________________________

Address ____________________________________________
City ________________________________________________

Email ____________________________________________
Card number _______________________________________

Home phone ________________________________________
Security code (3 or 4 digits) ______ Exp. Date ______

Cell phone _________________________________________
Signature __________________________________________

Work phone _________________________________________
Questions? Call the Membership Dept. at 323-852-8512

Please mail this form and your payment to: NCJW/LA, 543 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90036