

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



 MISSOURI JOBS WITH JUSTICE

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Who We Are

Missouri Jobs with Justice is a coalition of community, labor, student, and faith-based groups and individuals working to build transformative power for social, racial, and economic justice in our state. An organization of, by and for working people, we believe in solidarity; in showing up for each other no matter our race, where we live, or what job we have. In addition to our local and state partners, we are proud to be affiliated with national Jobs with Justice as well as with People's Action.

Missouri Jobs with Justice Voter Action is a companion 501(c)(4) organization to Missouri Jobs with Justice. Missouri Jobs with Justice Voter Action puts powerful tools into the hands of the grassroots leaders and activists who have built Missouri's worker justice movement through workplace campaigns, ballot initiatives, and other community fights.



Our vision is of a Missouri where:

- ✓ The economy and public infrastructure are strong and good jobs are plentiful
- ✓ The right of all workers to organize and collectively bargain is protected
- ✓ Opportunity exists for all regardless of race, identity, or immigration status
- ✓ All are assured economic security and a safe, healthy life
- ✓ White supremacy is understood, challenged, and dismantled

What We Do

We work to build a Missouri where everyone has what they need to lead safe and healthy lives. We win tangible victories for working people, whether Black, brown, or white. We organize in workplaces, in places of worship, on campuses and in neighborhoods throughout Missouri. We work to build power through direct action and through strong relationships that are rooted in justice, equity, and solidarity.

Our Jobs with Justice Solidarity Pledge, affirmed both by our individual members as well as our member organizations, commits us to show up for each other's fights at least five times a year. This means joining picket lines, attending rallies, contacting decision-makers, accompanying striking workers back to their workplaces, and joining in other actions that advance our vision of an economy, a democracy, and a Missouri that works for all of us.

In addition to showing up in solidarity with our members, Missouri Jobs with Justice directly organizes activists throughout our state, through a variety of organizing bodies:

Organizing Committees are the mobilization hubs of Missouri Jobs with Justice, where leaders meet and plan together. Organizing Committees are active in Springfield, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Columbia.

Faith Labor Alliances bring together labor and faith communities to deepen relationships and provide opportunities to act on shared values. Faith Labor Alliances currently meet in Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Charles County, and Springfield.

Workers' Rights Boards are made up of community and faith leaders dedicated to offering powerful support to worker struggles. Workers' Rights Boards are currently active in Springfield, Kansas City, and St. Louis.

Regional Leadership Teams bring together representatives from the sectors in which we organize along with local Organizing Committee and Workers' Rights Board representatives to strengthen alliances and make strategic decisions for local campaigns. Leadership Teams are currently active in St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, and Columbia.

Statewide Executive Board provides statewide leadership and direction for Missouri Jobs with Justice. State Executive Board members represent communities across the state as well as leaders from each of the sectors in which we organize.



Closing Out 2023

Dear Missouri Jobs with Justice Leaders, Members, and Allies-

Missouri Jobs with Justice is the organization I have called home for over 14 years. It was my first job where I made over minimum wage and had healthcare and other benefits. Coming from a union household this was huge and I was clear that the fight for worker's rights will always be my fight. Missouri is my home and I refuse to give up on it. The only way we make change is by understanding our real and common enemies, those that try to control our workplaces, our democracy, and our bodies. We must come together across race, class, industries, religions and all our identities to build power for working people.



While there is a lot of work ahead of us to create the Missouri we have all earned through hard work and solidarity, we should all take a moment to celebrate and reflect on the wins we've had together and I am incredibly thankful and energized by you all.

At MO JwJ, our members are the heartbeat of our organization. We could not do this work without you. And you do a lot, whether it's standing alongside workers, driving to Jefferson City and meeting with legislators, gathering signatures on a ballot initiative, knocking doors on issues, or donating money to fund this work. You show up! Every action is a huge investment in building power for real people. We promise to continue organizing and fighting together with you.

In 2023, workers made some real gains and it has been an honor to stand alongside them and bolster their organizing. When workers recognize their collective power, they can take on the boss and win.

With your leadership, we can move ambitious local and statewide policies that center and lift up workers and their families. Just like we won better wages, union contracts, defended our democracy, and expanded health care access, we can join together and build a Missouri that works for all of us, not just the wealthy few. Thank you for all you do in the fight for economic and racial justice.

Solidarity Forever,
Caitlyn Adams
Executive Director

Local Campaigns

When our member organizations call on us, we swing into action, bringing the power of Missouri Jobs with Justice to bear on unscrupulous employers, evasive politicians, and anyone who seeks to ignore the needs of Missouri’s families. We live by our core value of solidarity, because we know that we are stronger together.



Mid Missouri

Growing Solidarity with LiUNA Local 955 in Mid-Missouri

2023 was another powerful year for LiUNA Local 955 and Missouri Jobs with Justice. The marquee victory for the coalition was in aiding workers as they negotiated with the City of Columbia. MO JwJ helped turn people out to rallies in front of city hall, packed city council meetings, and contacted city council members directly, telling the city to treat its workers with the respect they deserve. In the end LiUNA Local 955 won significant raises and ended pre-employment drug testing for marijuana (which is legal!) that was contributing to staff shortages.

Missouri Jobs with Justice stood with LiUNA’s private sector members, too. In April, MO JwJ provided strike support to the workers at Wildcat Materials, delivering food to the strike line. They also sent community delegations not just to the Columbia office but to Wildcat’s offices in Springfield and St. Louis, telling management the community was watching and was in support of the workers fighting for fair wages and better working conditions.

Finally, MO JwJ was instrumental in turning out community members to support LiUNA Local 955’s University workers. Negotiations are still ongoing, and university workers feel more prepared than ever, knowing that MO JwJ has their back.



“Solidarity is key. The City and University know that when they’re talking to their workers – that the community has their back. And that wouldn’t be possible without Missouri Jobs with Justice.”

- Andrew Hutchinson, Union Rep & Organizing Director for Local 955

Supporting Missouri's First Unionized Library

Daniel Boone Regional Library Workers United (DBRLWU) spent all of 2023 negotiating their first contract with management and finally ratified a fair contract in December. Missouri Jobs with Justice has been a constant, unwavering ally throughout this multi-year process, having supported DBRLWU since the very beginning. From helping flood library board meetings and bargaining sessions to rallying outside the library for a fair contract, MO JwJ has been there. DBRLWU secured significant wage increases across all of our staff, paid family leave, job protections from subcontracting, and so much more in their inaugural contract.



“None of this would have been possible without our membership and the great support from our local community allies. We are proud to be a part of a community that cares so much and cannot wait to see what next year brings!”

- Patrick Johnston & Tori Patrick, Daniel Boone Regional Library Workers United

Pledging to Work for Our Neighborhoods

The Mid-Missouri Missouri Jobs with Justice chapter continued to build on its landmark Neighborhood Pledge campaign in 2023. Local leaders developed the Neighborhood Pledge around three core issues: expanding affordable housing, rebuilding our public infrastructure, and addressing inequity in Columbia. MO JwJ leaders spoke with voters and hosted a town hall in Columbia to hear the concerns of working people, not just special interests. This town hall builds on the Neighborhood Pledge and the notion that we deserve accountability and transparency from our elected leaders. Residents packed the pews of a local church to directly ask City Council candidates about the issues that matter to our community. At the end of the town hall, both Ward 1 candidates signed on to the Neighborhood Pledge! Thanks to our continued work, the majority of Columbia's City Council members have signed on to the pledge.



Standing with Cannabis Workers at Shangri-La Dispensary

Workers of all stripes are taking power into their own hands, talking with their co-workers, and fighting for their rights on the job. Cannabis workers in Missouri are among the new industries joining the labor ranks. In Columbia, workers at Shangri-La Dispensary in Columbia began talking with UFCW Local 655 about unionizing their own workplace. As soon as management got word of those conversations, the union-busting and unfair terminations came rolling in. That Spring, nine workers were fired for their union activity. Missouri Jobs with Justice joined these laid-off workers, current Shangri-La workers, UFCW and other labor representatives, customers, and elected officials for a two-day strike to show that anti-labor practices will not be tolerated. In October, the company finally settled and agreed to recognize and bargain with the union, as well as reinstate the unlawfully fired workers with back pay and benefits.



Awarding Progress in Columbia

As you can see from the rest of the Mid-Missouri section of this annual report, 2023 was a real banner year for Missouri Jobs with Justice in Mid-Missouri. And our work didn't go unnoticed! To cap off a truly amazing year, Missouri Jobs with Justice was honored with a Columbia Missourian Progress Award for the work we did this year to move Columbia forward. Winning the Progress Award was a real delight, and it was made possible by the exceptional work put in this year by our community leaders.



"We've done so much work this year to move Columbia forward: holding rallies, knocking on doors, and fighting for a better world for workers. This award is a recognition of the impact we have made and will continue to make in our community!"

-Sami Binning, Mizzou YDSA

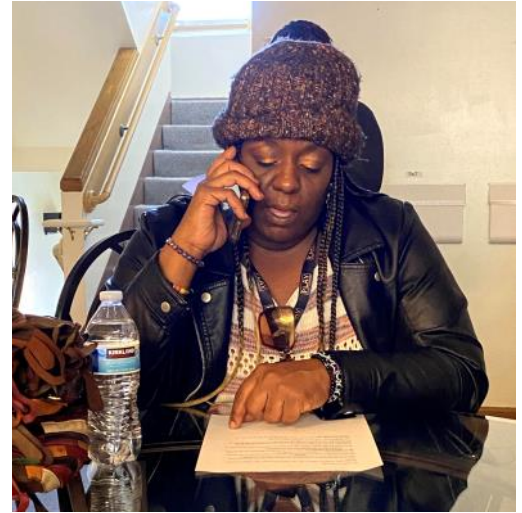


Passing Paid Family Leave in Columbia

Just as expanding paid family leave is a large priority for us at Missouri Jobs with Justice, winning paid family leave for city workers was a big priority for LiUNA Local 955 in their negotiations with the city of Columbia. Coordinating with LiUNA Local 955 and our partners at the Missouri Budget Project, MO JwJ played a vital role in winning this victory. After public testimony from LiUNA Local 955, a social media campaign blitz on May Day, and constituent input from MO JwJ members and the city council, Council Member Andrea Waner pushed the city council to add a 6 week paid family leave policy to the city budget.

A Missouri that works for all of us means a Missouri that works for our families. This victory for workers and their families in Mid-Missouri builds on previous victories in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Kansas City. MO JwJ continues to lead the way for the expansion of paid family leave policies across Missouri.

Kansas City



Defending ¾ Cent Sales Tax to Support Public Workers & Transportation

In November 2023, the ¾ cent sales tax that had supported public transit for the previous 10 years was up for renewal. This sales tax provides around 30% of the KCATA budget, and if voters didn't vote to renew it, the transit agency would have been forced to make major cuts to transit worker jobs and to weekend and night bus service. We were proud to stand with Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1287, the local union representing public bus drivers and other public transit workers in Kansas City, to support renewing this sales tax. We hosted phone banks where members of ATU Local 1287 made over 1,000 calls to Kansas City voters, urging them to vote YES on renewing this tax. Our efforts paid off, and the tax was overwhelmingly approved, with 73% of voters showing support for protecting good union jobs and investing in our public transit system.

“MOJWJ believes in helping the community and Missouri workers. We are proud to stand with MOJWJ to make political changes to better our lives and our communities we work in.”

- Sherrita Jackson, Financial Secretary, ATU Local 1287

Standing with AFSCME Detention Center Workers

We know that any workplace depends on all the workers, no matter their job title, zip code, or race. That's why we showed up in support of an informational picket held by AFSCME 1707, representing workers at the Jackson County Detention Center. These workers had been enduring scheduling issues, wage disputes, and seniority conflicts, when a raise was given only to correctional officers—caseworkers, environmental workers, cleaners, and records keepers were all excluded. When workers are treated unfairly on the job, they know that they can call on us to stand in solidarity with them.





Holding Immoral Contractors Accountable in Kansas City

Jose Rodolfo Garcia Sanchez was an undocumented Nicaraguan worker who was performing asbestos abatement at the AT&T building in downtown Kansas City when he had a fatal accident, falling 14 stories down an elevator shaft. New Horizons LLC, the contractor performing this asbestos work, has been the subject of multiple OSHA investigations dating back to 2013, and employees at the AT&T building expressed concern over the unsafe working conditions at this location as well. These safety violations included a lack of equipment to protect workers from inhaling asbestos and other carcinogens, as well as a lack of lighting, which likely caused this tragic and preventable death. We mobilized our members to actions that brought attention to these unsafe working conditions at the AT&T building, and we'll continue to show up to ensure that bad contractors like New Horizons are held accountable when they violate workers' rights.

Springfield-Ozarks

Practicing Yoga for Justice

Springfield - Ozarks Workers' Rights Board hosted our fourth annual yoga event in October at National Avenue Christian Church. We expanded the event this year to include meditation and tai chi and called the event Mindfulness for Justice. With the new opportunities for mindfulness, we had a record turnout of participants who were able to relax, recharge, and learn about the opportunities to get involved with Missouri Jobs with Justice. We offered childcare, a meal of tamales catered by Simply Guilina, and a margarita happy hour. We ended the night by recording a video in solidarity with striking UAW workers that was shared by the national UAW on their social media platforms.



Building Relationships with Local Elected Officials

The Springfield-Ozarks region works in local municipal elections in April to engage voters and community members around a platform that centers workers and the call for economic justice in Springfield. We believe that Springfield's working families deserve city leaders who work for us and put the needs of our families and neighborhoods first, not just corporate developers who rig the rules to boost their profits. Our hope is that any candidate running for office will complete our worker justice survey, meet with leaders, and commit to lifting up workers and recognizing their essential role in our communities and economy.

In 2023, we expanded our platform to include issues facing Springfield Public Schools Board of Education candidates along with candidates for Springfield City Council. We received surveys from and met with six candidates. Through our volunteer and deep canvassing efforts, we talked with more than 1,800 Springfield voters to share the survey responses and highlight which candidates share our values.



Saint Louis

Supporting KIPP School Teachers' Fight to Unionize

In late 2022, KIPP High School, a St. Louis charter school, won its unionization vote in the face of aggressive union-busting tactics and labor-busting consultants. KIPP staff overwhelmingly voted to organize with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 420, making KIPP High School the first charter school in Missouri to unionize. This is a huge victory, and Missouri Jobs with Justice was thrilled to stand with these dedicated teachers and staff in their fight for a voice on the job. Throughout 2023, negotiations on a first contract have stalled, and MO JwJ continues to show up for these workers in the streets and call out bad actors until they win a fair, strong union contract.





Demanding Justice for Janitors

Missouri Jobs with Justice in St. Louis has supported Justice for Janitors since our beginning twenty-five years ago. In 2022, MO JwJ showed up for SEIU Local 1 and janitors at the 22nd Circuit Court Building in downtown St. Louis against the corporate greed and discrimination of Challenge Unlimited. These dedicated janitors are employed by Challenge Unlimited, a company that claims workers with disabilities are clients, not equal employees. Challenge Unlimited has an active history of shady worker misclassification and discrimination to block workers from unemployment benefits and the right to form a union.

Our coalition called on St. Louis City to end its contract with this anti-worker company. In February 2023, the St. Louis Board of Alders heard our demands and passed a resolution favoring SEIU Local 1's position. In April, Challenge Unlimited chose to vacate its contract rather than do right by these workers. A union contractor, ABB, took over custodial services at the 22nd Circuit Court Building and retained the custodians who had been working for Challenge Unlimited.

In October 2023, custodians with Aramark working at the Anheuser-Busch Brewery downtown started a public campaign calling on Aramark to recognize them as unionized employees. It was unjust that the only non-union workers in the A-B Brewery were the janitorial staff. As of December 2023, Clean-Tech, a union company, will be taking over the janitorial contract at the A-B Brewery and retaining the brave, capable custodians who organized themselves in the first place.

Winning Organizing Protections Through Political Power

When MIDAS Hospitality sought a large tax break to redevelop a downtown St. Louis hotel, UNITE HERE Local 74 made a simple request—neutrality on a union election. When MIDAS balked at that request, Missouri Jobs with Justice helped organize a community/labor coalition and ensured St. Louis elected officials knew that public tax dollars should reflect our values, including a commitment to respecting workers' rights.

After we packed a hearing with the Board of Alderman on December 12th, MIDAS still refused to commit and came away empty-handed, showing the power of labor and community alliances. After initially blocking the subsidy, the coalition was able to get MIDAS to publicly and under oath commit to respecting workers' rights to organize and collectively bargain—showing the power of labor and community alliance.



Standing with Bloom Dispensary Workers in O’Fallon
 Workers at Bloom Medicinals in O’Fallon staged a walkout and one-day strike to demand that their company come to the bargaining table and negotiate a fair contract with UFCW Local 655. Bloom employees voted in July 2022 to join UFCW; However, the Bloom bosses refused to bargain in good faith. Workers joined together to demand better pay, paid time off, paid sick days, paid bereavement leave, and strengthened policies and trainings. Bloom workers kicked off 2023 with a walkout and one-day strike to call out the anti-union tactics the corporation deployed to thwart worker power.



Supporting SLU Nurses Fighting for Better Patient Care

Nurses at SSM SLU Hospital have been forced to work without a contract since June 2023. The patient focused nurses of the National Nurses Union are demanding SSM Health invest its record net revenues into proven measures that will improve workplace safety for all workers and improve the quality of patient care. The Missouri Jobs with Justice coalition has shown up at multiple actions with NNU throughout 2023, including a demonstration outside SSM Health’s Fundraising Gala at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. We continue to keep pressure on SSM Health to settle a strong contract that honors the hard work and dedication of NNU nurses.



“I think it’s so important that Jobs with Justice has been able to play a role to bring together solidarity for so many labor struggles this past year. They were huge in turning out support for the nurses strike at SLU and that solidarity is going to be so important in our fights going forward. Great work this year and looking forward to 2024.”

-Jenn Dean, National Nurses United

National Campaigns

In the same way that our local solidarity work can be undermined by the state legislature, what happens in Washington, DC can make our work very hard—or relatively easy—making national work essential to our mission.

Sippin' Solidarity with Starbucks Workers

Spring, summer, fall & winter, Missouri Jobs with Justice has been on the picket line with Starbucks Workers United, both as part of the national Starbucks Workers United campaign and spontaneous local actions led by workers. On national SBWU Days of Action, MO JwJ directly organized leafleting and consumer education at four different stores that are not yet unionized. There are currently 8 union stores in the St. Louis area, and a ninth, where MO JwJ leafleted on Red Cup Rebellion Day on November 16, has filed for an election. Starbucks Workers in the Kansas City region started organizing again this fall, which is very exciting! We look forward to supporting Starbucks Workers United across Missouri!



Putting Care Over Cost

Missouri Jobs with Justice fights corporate greed wherever we encounter it. Through our Care Over Cost campaign, we continue to shine a light on the abuse that Missourians face from corporate insurance companies, who place profits over the people. Locally, we participated in the National Care Over Cost Day of Action at the Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Headquarters in St. Louis. BCBS's profiteering model brought in more than \$8.5 billion in profits in 2022 by denying members care in their time of need. A day before the corporation's shareholder meeting, a crowd of faith and labor leaders, BCBS policyholders, and healthcare advocates attempted to meet with BCBS executives to share our stories and demands—we were met with locked doors.

"I pay for my healthcare. I pay my deductible. I am a father of six and have a son with Cystic Fibrosis – and you won't come out and talk to me?" said Ben Harman, a BCBS member, AFT Local 420 organizer and veteran. Fellow BCBS policyholders pulled out their insurance cards and began chanting as the BCBS representatives refused to meet with their insurance-card-carrying policyholders. St. Louis leaders marched, shared their healthcare stories, and chanted, "Who are you, to decide if we live or if we die?"



By coming together, we can pressure insurance companies to put Care Over Cost. One way to come together is by sharing our stories. Sharing your story can be empowering not only for you but for others who hear it. By sharing your story, you connect with others in the fight for quality healthcare and mobilize action against the oppressive systems that stifle our power. Let's transform our pain into public outrage and hold those in power accountable. Are you interested in sharing your story, or know someone who is? Go here: <https://bit.ly/MOHealth-Story>

Standing with United Auto Workers

One of the biggest worker fights and power moves of 2023 was the historic UAW strike—which included the Wentzville, MO plant among the first factories to join the Stand Up Strike. Over six long weeks of picketing, rallies, press conferences, walkouts, and delivering essentials to workers on the strike line, workers won big against the Big 3 automakers. Autoworkers made huge concessions in 2008 to keep GM, Ford, and Stellantis afloat—and these greedy corporations thought they could offer workers crumbs in new contracts.

One of the most important parts of the new contract is the elimination of the two-tier wage system. It kept new workers classified as “temporary workers” and paid significantly less than workers who were classified as “permanent.” This change will help ripple across sectors, helping working-class people by increasing wages and securing good union jobs for the future.

While on the frontlines with UAW workers at Local 2250 in Wentzville and furloughed Local 31 workers in Kansas City, KS, we joined working people from all different backgrounds and industries to support this strike. There is a renewed sense in the belief that collective power works when we embrace it and fight for one another. UAW President Shawn Fain said it best, “We didn’t just win back wages and benefits. We won back our power.”

This strike victory set the precedent for union contracts and policies for years to come for UAW members and the working class! In 2028, when it’s time to renegotiate, we’ll be right there with them again, in solidarity, as long as it takes for the Big Three to meet their demands.



Statewide Policy Fights

Missouri Jobs with Justice has long understood that no matter how well we are organized locally, working people need to organize and build power at the state level to ensure that local progress is not thwarted by Jefferson City lawmakers and lobbyists. Throughout 2023 we worked diligently to amplify the power of working people at the state level.

Preserving Our Wins and More in Jefferson City

As we entered the 2023 Missouri legislative session, we knew we had some important fights on our hands. Extremist politicians were sore losers, bullies, and hell-bent on destroying the progress Missourians have made for working families. This session had many difficult moments and caused unnecessary pain. Too many of our elected leaders ignored Missourians' real priorities and used their power to attack children, democracy, and even public libraries. Throughout the session, we remained focused on the power of the people, launching lobby days, in-district meetings, phone calls, and emails into our elected leaders' offices. Thanks to our collaborative efforts and long-term organizing plans, we closed out the session, defeated several anti-worker bills—and even passed some positive policies.

In 2023 we prioritized:

- Stopping cuts to unemployment insurance - **SUCCESS**
- Protecting our right to protest - **SUCCESS**
- Preventing unnecessary restrictions to the ballot initiative process - **SUCCESS**
- Protecting the right of workers to collectively bargain - **SUCCESS**

Our strong movement protected our state budget from damaging amendments. We saw other wins, including strengthening child care and pre-k services, raises for home care workers, and expanded Medicaid postpartum coverage from 60 days to 12 months. We applaud these investments in Missouri's working families and vital public services.

With 2024 being an election year, we know that the most extreme and out-of-touch politicians will be more emboldened than ever to attack Missourians based on what we look like, where we live, and who we love. We remain committed to our core values and renew our pledge to Be There for Missouri's working families!



Giving Workers a Clean Slate

Everyone should have an opportunity to work, have a safe home, care for their families, and contribute to their community. Today, more than 1.9 million Missourians from all walks of life face barriers to jobs, education, housing, and other basic necessities because they have an arrest or conviction on their record. The current expungement process is cumbersome and expensive, meaning only the richest and most connected of our neighbors are able to access expungement, with fewer than 1% of eligible people being able to access expungement despite its life-changing potential.



In 2023, we joined our longtime partners and member organization, Empower Missouri, to right this wrong. We're working to ensure that everyone who qualifies for expungement should get the clean slate they've earned—regardless of whether they can afford a lawyer and expensive court fees or have the knowledge to navigate a complex court process. While bipartisan legislation did not make it across the finish line last session, we are already working in the halls of Jefferson City to pass this important policy.

Expanding Contraceptive Access with The Right Time

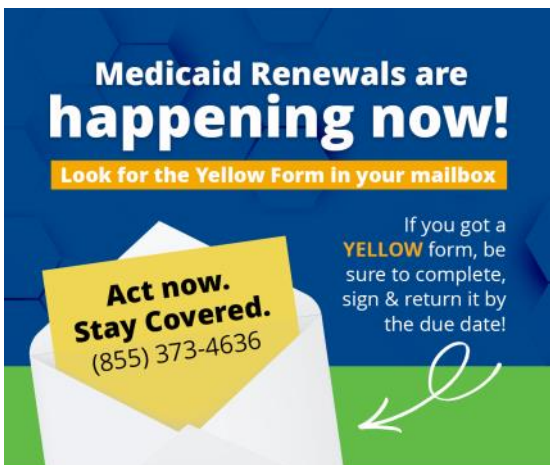
Missouri Jobs with Justice continues to push for full access to healthcare for all Missourians without delay or barriers. In 2023, we joined The Right Time Initiative (TRT) with our partners at Missouri Family Health Council and Missouri Foundation for Health to further this work. TRT was an effort founded on the idea that everyone should be able to follow their own dreams for the future. TRT recognizes that workers should always have the final say in healthcare decisions and works to empower people to take charge of their own health by enhancing information about and eliminating obstacles to contraceptive services. Through this initiative, we have had hundreds of conversations with impacted Missourians and continue to spread the word to make all contraception and healthcare accessible as possible to as many Missourians as possible.



Improving Medicaid Access and Experiences

When the COVID-19 pandemic was declared a public health emergency, Congress passed legislation that required Medicaid programs, including MO HealthNet, to keep people continuously enrolled in Medicaid. This needed relief, removed bureaucratic and administrative barriers that often resulted in Medicaid recipients losing coverage, sometimes being permanently disenrolled. This ensured more families could care for themselves and loved ones, but the relief was only temporary. Congress ended this program, and the dire impacts were immediate. More than 136,800 Missouri Medicaid enrollees have been disenrolled and nearly 80% of those folks lost health coverage for procedural issues, like missing a form in the mail or missing a phone call, rather than actually being ineligible for the program. In 2023 we educated over 70,000 Missourians about Medicaid enrollment and renewal and at least 350 people we able to keep Medicaid access through our volunteer outreach program.

Missouri Jobs with Justice partnered with People's Action Institute, Center for Popular Democracy, and Make the Road New York to conduct surveys from September of 2022 to February of 2023 that resulted in national and state level reports, which can be found at <https://mojwj.org/blog/medicaidreport2023/>, that include survey results, as well as recommendations on what to do to ensure we don't lose the progress that we have made. MO JwJ has continued organizing impacted Missourians through paid digital ads, tabling, robocalls, door knocking, texting, emails, personal phone calls, and presentations with partner organizations to ensure Missourians had all the information and support they needed to retain health coverage for themselves and their families. Through these efforts, MO JwJ leaders personally spoke with hundreds of Medicaid recipients and collected more than 20 stories. In 2024, we are continuing to build these relationships and work toward policies to streamline and strengthen the Missouri Medicaid program.



Medicaid Renewals are happening now!

Look for the Yellow Form in your mailbox

Act now. Stay Covered. (855) 373-4636

If you got a **YELLOW** form, be sure to complete, sign & return it by the due date!



More people than ever are eligible for Medicaid. Are you one of them?

Check your eligibility today!

Act now. Get covered.



Stories from Medicaid Recipients:

“I didn’t understand how to fill it out. I also didn’t think that I qualified without being pregnant. I tried when I was younger and I got denied because I wasn’t pregnant so I was surprised when I got it. And because I got it I have also been able to get a phone and with the phone I was able to get a job and I hope to be able to get out of the tent that I am living in.”

“[There was] not enough clarity around the process and requirements for approval, and the renewal process for other services is different, it would be easier if you renewed both at the same time - [it’s] hard to keep track of documents required for renewal when [you are] unhoused.”

Voter Engagement

Deep Conversations and Trusted Relationships with Missouri Voters

For nearly a decade, the work of Missouri Jobs with Justice Voter Action has been advancing an agenda built to actualize the needs and aspirations of Missouri’s multiracial working class. Over these years, we have learned that while voter engagement work tied to electoral calendars is critical for winning elections, we have to build long-term relationships rooted in power with working people, that equip them to take action year-round.

In 2023, we strengthened and expanded our year-round deep canvassing conversations with voters. Deep canvassing is a tactic we use to connect with voters and have longer in-depth conversations in order to understand each other better, address dog whistle politics that voters are hearing, and address corporate greed head-on. We then work to organize those voters into the base of Missouri Jobs with Justice as leaders, driving our economic justice agendas.

We ran these programs in Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Louis County, St. Charles, Columbia, and Springfield. We knocked on more than 300,000 doors and had multiple conversations with over 20,000 voters, and by the end of the conversations, more than half of the people we spoke with expressed support for worker justice issues. Even more impressive, 25% of all people took action with us! For the first time, we were able to layer digital awareness and outreach strategies to increase our reach. This additional tactic increased awareness of MO JwJ, uncovered personal stories, and strengthened support for our issues.

As we move into 2024, we are excited to continue the great work of deep canvassing and will dive deeper into the vital work of organizing those who aren’t organized into the fight for Jobs with Justice!



300,000
Doors knocked



20,000
Conversations



90,000
Signatures

Engaging Voters in Local Elections

In 2023, St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, and Springfield Leadership teams ran effective and successful traditional canvassing programs to engage voters around municipal and school board elections. These programs, each designed and led by Missouri Jobs with Justice leaders, were able to talk with over 18,000 voters about worker justice issues and provide political education around which candidates aligned with those issues. Every region was grounded by a volunteer-led canvassing program that was bolstered by paid canvassers. We are excited to continue fighting to build power in our communities for years to come.



Missourians for Healthy Families and Fair Wages

From county fairs to punk shows to parades, we have been talking to voters throughout the state about making sure all workers make a \$15 minimum wage and get access to earned sick time by signing the initiative petition Missourians for Healthy Families and Fair Wages. We began by gathering over 2,500 signatures on April's election day and have gone on to gather over 90,000 signatures statewide and counting! This amazing feat has been accomplished through the dedication of over 300 Missouri Jobs with Justice Leaders and volunteers, gathering signatures to date. We will continue to gather signatures to qualify this important initiative in 2024. MO JwJ continues to prove how citizen driven democracy will get things done for the state of Missouri.



Strategic Initiatives

Training the Next Generation of Leaders

Leadership Development is a core value and strategy for how we build power. We at Missouri Jobs with Justice have been running our Leadership Development Training (LDT) since 2005, bringing together over 550 workers, leaders, and activists from across the state and country. The training combines hands-on experience with collaborative learning to equip leaders with the skills needed to win campaigns.

In 2023, we hosted two Leadership Development Trainings that brought 30 leaders from member organizations, labor unions, and other MO JwJ affiliates together to build relationships, campaign skills, and a powerful multiracial movement. By sharing this time together, we are able to create systems of shared knowledge and understanding as well as build a culture of accountability within our organization. It's no surprise that previous LDT attendees have gone on to run organizations, run for office, and run winning campaigns across the country. We look forward to another powerful LDT in 2024 as we build a pipeline of trained and strategic organizers.



“We have had such a powerful year together. My relationship with MOJwJ started back in October 2022 when I participated in a Leadership Development Training and I am so grateful that I did because the organizing skills I took from that I still use in my work to this day. It also opened up a whole world of support and community. MOJwJ has stood by us at our picket lines, at our rallies; has stood by us while we’ve won huge campaign wins like credit card tipping, \$15 min wage, getting partners reinstated that were unfairly fired for organizing. We are so grateful to have MOJwJ standing next to us. Thank you for all that you do, I’m proud to be a member, and I’m so excited to see what we accomplish in 2024.”

-Moe Mills, Starbucks Workers United

Building Faith Labor Alliances

Missouri Jobs with Justice continues to build on our long history of worker solidarity with our Faith Labor Alliances (FLA). These bodies bring together faith, community and labor leaders to hear directly from workers about how to support their campaigns for justice and dignity, hear reflections from one another on our shared values, and build strong public relationships to move those values into action to build the Missouri we have worked for. In several instances, the FLA leaders were able to respond immediately to urgent organizing fights. In St. Louis, FLA members supported UNITE HERE Local 74's efforts to demand MIDAS properties stop union-busting before receiving any public funding by filling the hearing room at City Hall. The Kansas City FLA wrote personal notes supporting teachers organizing with AFT at Kauffman School and supported the Parvin Estates Tenant Union's demands to Yarco Properties.



Workers' Rights Boards

Workers' Rights Board (WRB) members are leaders in their communities who champion workers' rights and citizen-led plans for a better economy and democracy. They mobilize other leaders in their networks and their base to do the same. MO JwJ currently has Workers' Rights Boards in the St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield.

Workers' Rights Board members joined legislative efforts in the capitol, in their home districts, and in the media to defend the initiative petition process and workers' rights at all levels. WRB members were on the picket lines with baristas, nurses, cannabis workers, janitors, autoworkers, bus drivers, teachers, and caregivers. WRB members led walkbacks for striking workers and marched on the boss to deliver workers' demands and show the solidarity of our multi-racial movement.



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 AFGE Local 1336
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 AFT Local 691
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 Cross Border Network
 CWA Local 6300
 CWA Local 6301
 CWA Local 6355-MSWU
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 DSA, St. Louis
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 Epiphany United Church of Christ
 GCC-IBT Local 6-505
 God’s Will in Action
 Greater Kansas City AFL-CIO
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 Heartland Alliance for Progress

IATSE Local 31
 IBEW Local 1
 IBEW Local 2
 IBEW Local 53
 IBEW Local 124
 IBEW Local 1439
 Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America
 Iron Workers Local 10
 Iron Workers Local 396
 Iron Workers Local 577
 IUE-CWA Local 86821
 KC Tenants
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 LIUNA Local 662
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 Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 178
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 Sheet Metal Workers Local 36
 Show Me \$15
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Vijaya Rajagopalan
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Gerda Ray
Michael Rebne
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Rebecca Rendall
 Riley Rennels
 Clara Richter
David Riney
 Lorine Robbins
Jenna Roberson
Toni Robinson
Mary Rocchio
Jamala Rogers
Jim Roos
Nehemiah Rosell
 Kayshia Rosenbury
Jake Rosenfeld



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Jason Ross
Tony Rothert
Rachel Roth-Martin
Tim Rowden
Irma Ruebling
Mallory Rusch
Jack Russell
Rob Russell
Christina Ryder
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Mahree Skala
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Galen Zavala
Darby Zelaskowski
Isabella Zelaskowski
Kandice Zelaskowski
Jane Zeni
Dallas Ziegenhorn
Craig Zumsteg
Bronwen Zwirner

Missouri Jobs with Justice is funded by the generous support of workers across the state.

We are sorry if we missed you on this list.

Donate Online!

Go to: www.mojwj.org/donate

How To Join

Missouri Jobs with Justice has two kinds of members—individuals and organizations. Member Organizations are critical to MO JwJ’s ability to stand in solidarity with workers and continue organizing and mobilizing to fight for fair wages, workers’ rights, health care and a democracy that works for everyone—no exceptions. Your organization can join MO JwJ by completing the form below or go online to: www.mojwj.org/about/member-organizations.

Individual members of Missouri Jobs with Justice are the backbone of our organization. Members take our ‘Be There’ pledge, committing to ‘be there’ at least five times a year for someone else’s fight as well as their own. This means joining picket lines, attending rallies, phone banking, signing petitions and participating in other actions. You, as an individual, can join Missouri Jobs with Justice by sending in the form on page 31.

Missouri Jobs with Justice Dues

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS:

Members	Annual	Monthly
0-1,000	\$500	\$42
1,000-2,500	\$1,000	\$83
2,500-5,000	\$2,500	\$208
5,000-10,000	\$5,000	\$417
10,000+	\$10,000	\$833

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Budget	Annual	Monthly
\$0-10K	\$100	\$8
\$10K-100K	\$250	\$20
\$100K-500K	\$500	\$42
\$500K+	\$1,000	\$83

*Labor organization rates apply to organizations that collect dues from individual members (like local unions), labor organizations that collect dues from affiliate locals (i.e. Labor Councils, District Councils) will negotiate on a case-by-case basis, not to go any lower than community group rate.

Organization _____ Contact Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Pay dues in the amount \$ _____ (see table above) Card Check Cash

Debit/Credit Card Number _____ Exp Date ____/____ 3 digit code _____

Billing Address (If different than above) _____

Return your organizational membership form via email to info@moJwJ.org or by mail to 2725 Clifton, St. Louis, MO 63139.

Become A Member

Organized People

Missouri Jobs with Justice is a coalition of individual members and organizations throughout our state who are committed to building a powerful multiracial movement to achieve social, racial, and economic justice for all. We are working together to build a more just world where we can all thrive.

Real change happens from the ground up, in church basements and union halls, at community centers and on front porches. We believe that power is made up of organized people and organized money. While the richest 1% and the politicians they bankroll work to divide us along racial, geographic, and economic lines, we must build power together. To build the Missouri we want to see and the Missouri that our families need, become a member of Missouri Jobs with Justice by paying dues of no less than \$5 per month and by taking the Jobs with Justice Pledge below.

Organized Money

I will support this work financially:

By becoming a **Sustaining Member** through **Auto Donation** on my credit or debit card. Donate the following amount on my card each month:

\$50/month \$20/month \$10/month Other \$____/ month

With a **one-time donation** of \$_____ Card Check Cash

Debit/Credit Card Number _____ Exp Date ____/____ 3 digit code _____

Name _____ Email _____

Home Address _____

Cell Phone Number _____ I would like to receive text messages updates

Solidarity Pledge

I will **BE THERE** to fight for an economy, a democracy, and a Missouri that works for all of us, no matter the color of our skin, our zip code, or what's in our wallets. I commit to **BE THERE** at least five times a year:

- Standing up for our rights as working people—Black, brown, and white—to good jobs and healthy communities;
- Supporting the right of all workers to organize and bargain collectively;
- Fighting for fair wages in the face of corporate greed;
- Fighting against white supremacy wherever I encounter it, and standing up for racial justice;
- Organizing the unorganized to take aggressive action to secure a better future for all of us;
- Mobilizing those already organized to join the fight for *Jobs with Justice*.

By becoming a member you will receive regular updates and invitations to take action with Missouri Jobs with Justice. Return your membership form to info@moJwJ.org or 2725 Clifton, St. Louis, MO 63139. Sign up online at: moJwJ.org/membership.

MISSOURI JOBS **WITH** JUSTICE

BE THERE PLEDGE

We will BE THERE:

- ✓ Standing up for our rights as working people—Black, brown, and white—to good jobs and healthy communities;
- ✓ Supporting the right of all workers to organize and bargain collectively;
- ✓ Fighting for fair wages in the face of corporate greed;
- ✓ Fighting against white supremacy wherever we encounter it, and standing up for racial justice;
- ✓ Organizing the unorganized to take aggressive action to secure a better future for all of us;
- ✓ Mobilizing those already organized to join the fight for *Jobs with Justice*.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

It is a privilege to fight alongside you—and we'll stand in front of you if we have to. We'll be there every step of the way.



MISSOURI
JOBS **WITH** JUSTICE



2725 Clifton Ave, St. Louis, MO 63139

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