

How We Have Grown

- We have grown from 25 interested women to 204 members and friends of Women's Voices.
- We have officers, a Board of Directors, and bylaws (pending approval).
- We have a regular meeting time and place: 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday at Alberici Headquarters.
- We have a web site that's accurate, up-to-date and user friendly: womensvoicesraised.org.
- We have a logo. We have a newsletter/calendar that is e-mailed twice monthly.
- We have four working focus groups: politics and religion, health care, education, environment.

What We Have Done

- Marched in the Gay Pride Parade, sponsored by Pride St. Louis, at Tower Grove Park.
- Joined the Missouri Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice in Jefferson City to lobby against the imposition of still more restrictions on abortion.
- Joined the local chapter of the National Conference for Communities and Justice in their annual "Walk as One" event to support inclusiveness and racial justice.
- Offered to underwrite the cost to transport and guard a Missouri prisoner so she could exercise her right to choose an abortion.
- Participated in the Ethical Society's Social Justice Fair.
- Stood vigil with the Eastern Missouri Coalition Opposing the Death Penalty on the night before Marlin Gray's execution.
- Joined 20 other organizations in the "Coalition Against the War on Women" to protest Gov. Blunt's attempts to deny access to emergency birth control to Missouri women.
- Attended Missouri Votes Conservation's Fourth Environmental Summit in Columbia.
- Joined with the conservation community, spearheaded by the Sierra Club and the League of Women Voters, in support of Renewable Energy Standards in Missouri.
- Established a Book-by-Book program through which book clubs donate books to city schools.
- Joined the "Love Needs No Cure" rally in support of the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgendered community at the Focus on the Family conference.
- Addressed the St. Louis Ethical Society at their Sunday morning platform.
- Marked the third anniversary of the War on Iraq in company with many other organizations and activists at the World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park.
- Joined with Women from across Missouri on Women's Health Lobby Day in Jefferson City to advocate for the "Prevention First" Act and other reproductive choice issues.

- Gathered more than thirty Voices behind our new banner to join the "Prevention First" rally in downtown Kirkwood.
- Worked with members of the St. Louis Chapter of Hadassah, the Ethical Action Committee of the Ethical Society, and the Friends of the First Unitarian Church to plan and sponsor a forum entitled "What Families Need to Know About Stem Cell Research."
- Joined with People's Agenda Fund to gather signatures on a petition to place an initiative on the November ballot to restore the benefits that were cut from Missouri Medicaid.
- And, as members of focus groups, we have authored four position papers:

In Support of Women's Reproductive Rights

In Support of the Missouri Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative

In Support of the Initiative to Increase Missouri's Tobacco Tax

In Opposition to the Sale of National Forest Lands to Fund Rural Schools

What We Have Learned

Our programs have included M'Evie Mead from Planned Parenthood; Sylvester Brown, columnist for the Post Dispatch; Ruth Ehresman from the Missouri Budget Project; Diane Sheehan, a founder of progressiveTalk.org; Cynthia Kramer, patient/advocate for stem cell research; Stacey Newman of Missouri Women's Coalition; Lynne Cooper of Doorways; and Rudy Pulido and Cynthia Holmes of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.