

# NCJW Leadership Retreat 2018 Pre-Retreat Guide

Learn. Connect. Do.

June 1-3, 2018

Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel & Conference Center  
St. Louis, Missouri

## Overview

Leadership Retreat is designed for all NCJW leaders — wherever you are along the continuum of leadership — current and incoming board presidents, board members, committee chairs, and emerging leaders. The retreat offers the knowledge and tools we need to build strong sections, as well as feel empowered as Jewish leaders doing complex social justice work.

## Hotel & Ground Transportation

NCJW Leadership Retreat 2018 will be held at the Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, 600 West Port Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63146. The hotel's telephone number is (314) 878-1500; click here to learn about the [hotel's amenities](#).

You can get to the hotel to and from the St. Louis Lambert International Airport (STL) by cab, ride sharing service, or a complimentary hotel shuttle. A cab or ride sharing service should cost about \$18-25 for the 10 minute ride. The complimentary hotel shuttle runs every 15 minute from the airport. The shuttle picks up guests at Exit 18 in Terminal 1 and Exit 15 in Terminal 2. The shuttle is a white van marked Sheraton Westport or DoubleTree Westport. The complimentary hotel shuttle runs every 30 minutes from the hotel back to the airport.

If you are traveling by car, please follow [this link for driving directions](#). There is complimentary parking.

## Registration

When you arrive, first check in at the hotel lobby for your room. If you have any trouble, please contact Ellen Alper ([éalper@ncjwstl.org](mailto:éalper@ncjwstl.org) or 314-482-6732) or stop by the NCJW registration desk.

You can register for Leadership Retreat outside Plaza 1 on the first floor near the lobby. Registration will be open Wednesday from 3:00-6:00pm, Thursday from 8:00am-6:00pm, and Friday from 8:00am-7:00pm. On Saturday and Sunday, please register in the on-site NCJW Office in Plaza 1.

When you register, you will receive your name badge and an NCJW tote bag with your Leadership Retreat workbook, including a full program schedule, maps for the hotel, bios for all of Leadership Retreat plenary speakers and trainers, Manual for Leaders, and more. Your bags will also include some surprises. If you registered by April 8, you will also pick up your free NCJW t-shirt. T-shirts will also be sold at the Tribute & Swag Table, located next to the registration table.

## Security

There will be security present during the conference and participants will be required to wear name badges at all times.

## Clothing

St. Louis temperatures range from 60-80 degrees in June. During Leadership Retreat you will spend much of your time inside the conference center. Choose clothes that are comfortable and business casual. Meeting rooms may be either too hot or too cold, so be sure to bring clothes that can be layered.

## Timing

The retreat begins Friday, June 1 at 2 pm CDT and concludes Sunday, June 3 at 1:30 pm CDT.

## Dining

Your registration includes snacks and meals. Full registration includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and Sunday breakfast and lunch. All meals will be buffet style. There are gluten free (GT), vegetarian (V), and dairy free (DF) options that will be marked accordingly. If you have other dietary needs or concerns, please find Ellen Alper ([ealper@ncjwstl.org](mailto:ealper@ncjwstl.org)).

For those arriving early or staying late, the hotel and conference center also offers a [variety of restaurant options](#).

## Photography and Videography

NCJW has hired a photographer and videographer to cover certain portions of the program. Please note that your participation at Leadership Retreat confirms that you agree to have your photograph or video taken, that all photographs and videos will be the property of NCJW Inc., and that they may be used in perpetuity. If you're uncomfortable being photographed, please let our communications staff know: Samantha Weil ([sweil@ncjw.org](mailto:sweil@ncjw.org)) and Amanda Lang ([alang@ncjw.org](mailto:alang@ncjw.org)).

## Wear Orange for Gun Violence Prevention Photo

#WearOrange events will be held on the weekend of June 2 and 3 nationwide as we recognize individuals and communities impacted by gun violence, share our dedication and commitment to

each other to take on the work ahead and celebrate, and share our collective stories of success in working to reduce gun violence in our country. NCJW will be joining these efforts!

On Saturday, June 2, we will gather to take an NCJW group photo following lunch. Please wear your NCJW t-shirts (if you have one), and any orange accessories you may have. We will provide orange stickers and signs to hold during our photo.

### **Social Media: #NCJWLeads18**

Before Leadership Retreat, please post on Facebook or Twitter some simple messages to show your excitement!

Sample Facebook post:

- What are you doing the first weekend in June? We will be in St. Louis with leaders and advocates from around the country at the NCJW Leadership Retreat!

Sample Tweets:

- Have you heard the news?! We will be in STL for #NCJWLeads18. So excited to join @NCJW and other advocates from across the country to learn from incredible progressive heroes.
- Are you going to be in STL for #NCJWLeads18? We will see you there - so pumped to spend the next few days with all of the incredible @NCJW members and leaders.

## **Leadership Retreat Schedule**

[Click here for the complete schedule.](#) A printed copy will be in your workbook.

### **Workshops**

The more than 20 workshops at NCJW Leadership Retreat 2018 fall under four topics: personal leadership, leading for change, outreach and engagement, and our work. Whether you are a new section leader or a seasoned pro, you are sure to leave our workshops with new and improved skills, knowledge, and connections.

Note: Workshop rooms are limited to 40 or 50 people depending on the set up. If you want to be sure to get in, get there early.

### **Speakers and Special Programs**

Leadership Retreat 2018 has an exciting slate of speakers and programs! Our plenary speakers are change-makers in their communities and leading the way to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion. Click here to hear more about [Yavilah McCoy](#), [Adrienne Davis](#), and [Mother 2 Mother](#). See a complete [list of speakers here](#).