



**Community Coalition for Social Justice**  
**PO Box 160**  
**Morgantown, WV 26507-0160**  
**ccsjwv@gmail.com – Note New Email Address**  
**www.ccsjwv.org**

**UPDATE: MARCH 1, 2022**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

**CONTACT US:** Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at attfield@comcast.net. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at [ccsjwv@gmail.com](mailto:ccsjwv@gmail.com). Please note our new email address. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

**PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES** - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

**March CCSJ Meeting is March 15th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.**

Here is the Zoom information:

TOPIC: CCSJ MARCH MEETING

TIME: MAR 15, 2022, 07:30 P.M. EASTERN TIME (US AND CANADA)

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/86235650918?pwd=WFY4WGxudEJzMk5TdHF6cXBnVXhPUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86235650918?pwd=WFY4WGxudEJzMk5TdHF6cXBnVXhPUT09)

MEETING ID: 862 3565 0918

PASSCODE: 029826

ONE TAP MOBILE

+13126266799, 86235650918#, \*029826# US (CHICAGO)

+16468769923 ,86235650918#, \*029826# US (NEW YORK)

DIAL BY YOUR LOCATION

+1 312 626 6799 US (CHICAGO)

+1 646 876 9923 US (NEW YORK)  
+1 301 715 8592 US (WASHINGTON DC)  
+1 408 638 0968 US (SAN JOSE)

MEETING ID: 862 3565 0918

PASSCODE: 029826

FIND YOUR LOCAL NUMBER: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/KFDAWOXI](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kfdaWOXI)



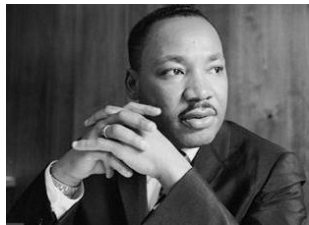
**PLANNING TO START FOR “READ ALOUD” PROJECT WITH THE SHACK**

**NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE:** Our first planning meeting for this project will be Friday, March 11, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. If you wish to

join us, please email Barb Howe at [Barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu) for the Zoom link.

The project is to work with The Shack in Monongalia County in its outreach to students attending Eastwood, Mason Dixon, Mylan Park, and Ridgedale elementary schools to improve the quality of life in our community by promoting literacy and awareness of social justice issues while also promoting education to prepare students for work in the future. The Shack currently offers before-school and/or after-school care for students at these schools.

We will be purchasing sets of books and worksheets focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion that are appropriate to the students in grades pre-kindergarten to fifth grade (ages 4-11) at each school. Members of the Community Coalition for Social Justice will then read with the children and discuss the books with them. We will collaborate with, Shawnda Cook, the director of the Shack, and her staff to choose books. We want the children to have items to take home with them so that they may continue to enjoy and learn from them after one session.



**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY 2022 THEME WAS “RESPECT”:** A YouTube version of all the program, minus the local school choirs and Boston Children’s Choir, is available at <https://www.ccsjwv.org/videos/ccsj-news/mlk2022.mp4>.



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK!** Just look for “Community Coalition for Social Justice” under “Groups” and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group “leader.”

**LOCAL NEWS**



**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next regular meeting will be Thursday, **March 17th** at 6:30 p.m. You can get contact information for the commission, including information on filing complaint forms at [www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission).

You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at [www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/).

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at [www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF)

**MARCH:**

National Women's History Month – Honors women as significant agents of change.

**March 8: International Women's Day** – Celebration of the economic, political, and social achievements of women worldwide. Recognition of need for empowering women to meet their health and family planning needs as central to realizing greater equality. With access to education, economic opportunity, and quality health care, healthier mothers can have healthier babies, economic gains, and help create less pressure on our planet's natural resources.

**March 21: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** – Call to action to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination worldwide.

**March 21: International Forest Day** – Call for awareness of the importance of forests in protecting air quality, water retention, plants for pharmaceuticals, habitat for birds and other wildlife – all of which provide a balance for survival of all.

**March 22: World Water Day** – Calls for awareness of how essential potable water is to the rights of all people in West Virginia and worldwide.

**March 31: Cesar Chavez Day** – Honors Mexican American farm worker. Labor leader, and activist Cesar Chavez (1927- 1993) who was a nationally respected voice of social justice.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM):** The League is planning a candidate forum to take place in late March or early April. If anyone would like to participate in planning/generating questions for the candidates, the League is looking for people to help. Interested volunteers can email [lwwmorgantown@gmail.com](mailto:lwwmorgantown@gmail.com).

Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LWVMM](http://www.facebook.com/LWVMM) and contact them by email at [lwwmorgantown@gmail.com](mailto:lwwmorgantown@gmail.com). You can join the League of Women Voters at [tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm](http://tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm).

**The League has asked CCSJ to submit potential questions for candidates for these offices:**

- Monongalia County County Commission
- Monongalia County Circuit Clerk
- Monongalia County County Clerk
- Monongalia County Board of Education
- Conservation District Supervisor
- West Virginia House of Delegates
- West Virginia Senate
- U.S. House of Representatives

**If you have suggestions for questions, please submit them to Mike Attfield at [mdattfield@gmail.com](mailto:mdattfield@gmail.com) by March 4th so** that he can compile a list to submit on behalf of CCSJ by the March 7th deadline. Please specify which office is the focus of your question. The League of Women Voters makes all final decisions on questions to use.

**MAY PRIMARY INFORMATION:** For more information about the May election, please go to [sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/WVRedistricting.aspx](http://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/WVRedistricting.aspx) for the new district maps. Note that the 51<sup>st</sup> District, which covers most of Monongalia County, has now been divided into five separate districts. Instead of voting for up to five members of the House of Delegates, you will only vote for one member for each district. Monongalia County is comprised of House of Delegates Districts 77-82 on the map.

Here is the **list of offices** that will be on the ballot in May for Monongalia County voters: [www.monongaliacountyclerk.com/myfiles/elections/2022Primary/Candidate\\_Filing\\_Information/Offices\\_on\\_the\\_ballot\\_for\\_the\\_May\\_2022\\_Primary\\_Election.pdf](http://www.monongaliacountyclerk.com/myfiles/elections/2022Primary/Candidate_Filing_Information/Offices_on_the_ballot_for_the_May_2022_Primary_Election.pdf). Note that the Board of Education election is the final election. The final election for the other positions will be in November.

**Names of candidates** for U.S. House of Representatives, House of Delegates, West Virginia Senate, are available at [apps.sos.wv.gov/elections/candidate-search/](http://apps.sos.wv.gov/elections/candidate-search/).

**Voter registration information** is available at [www.monongaliacountyclerk.com/index.php/voter-registration](http://www.monongaliacountyclerk.com/index.php/voter-registration). The deadline to register is April 19th. Early voting will be from April 27th through May 7th.

**Absentee ballot information** is available at [sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/AbsenteeVotingInformation.aspx](http://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/AbsenteeVotingInformation.aspx). You must request an absentee ballot. Two years ago, applications were mailed to every voter because of COVID-19. At “press time,” there is no indication that will happen this year.

The **calendar for the May primary** is at [sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/GoVoteWV.aspx](http://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/GoVoteWV.aspx).



**MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER:** The next meeting will be March 8th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/](http://www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/). Details and agenda are available through the weekly newsletter or email at [morgantownnow@gmail.com](mailto:morgantownnow@gmail.com).



**MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS MARCH 15TH:** This meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at [3241naacp@gmail.com](mailto:3241naacp@gmail.com) for more information and to learn how to participate.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group that is publicized through the NAACP listserv. The current book is bell hooks's *All About Love*.

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page\\_internal](http://www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page_internal).



**MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BROTHERN-MENNONITE:** Follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634](https://www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634) or at [www.morgantowncob.org](http://www.morgantowncob.org). Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom, with the link available at [www.morgantowncob.org](http://www.morgantowncob.org). “We ask that everyone wear a mask inside the building.”



**UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN MARCH PROGRAMS:** These programs will be held via ZOOM (and locally as soon as reasonable). For more information, please go to [www.uufmwv.org/](http://www.uufmwv.org/). The Zoom door opens at 10:45 a.m. Check UUFMWV.org for On-site vs. Zoom

**March 6th:** “Amnesty International and Displaced Persons Around the World,” Service leaders: Duane Nichols, et al. Open at 10:45, Service at 11:00 AM.

**March 13th:** “Woman’s History Month Program” with Service Leaders: Shelia Rye, et al. Open at 10:45, Service at 11:00 AM.

**March 20th:** “Proposed Eighth Principle of the UUA” with Service Leaders: Tim Nelms, et al. Open at 10:45, Service at 11:00 AM. Proposed new principle is “..... *accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.*” Review of the evolution of this proposed additional principle, and more generally, the process for adopting new principles in the UUA.

**March 27th:** “The Fourth Principle of the UUA” with Service Leaders: Michael Siciliano, Community Minister, et al. Open at 10:45, Service at 11:00 AM. ~ The Fourth Principle is “**A Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning.**”

**Contact information:** UUFMWV, P.O. Box 4109, Morgantown, WV 26504. President, Duane Nichols; V.P. Michael Siciliano; Secretary, Tim Nelms; Treasurer, Denny Houseknecht.

**PFLAG:** The closest chapter now is in Fairmont, with information available at [www.pflagfairmont.org](http://www.pflagfairmont.org). According to its website, “PFLAG Fairmont meets each month, usually on the first Thursday of the month at 7p.m. on the 2nd floor of the Ruth Ann Musick Library on the campus of Fairmont State University.”



**DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER:** “Dismantling Racism Together is a WV group that meets monthly. We seek to educate and motivate citizens and organizations so they can collaborate to advocate for change.

“Dismantling Racism Together will hold our monthly meeting on Monday March 7 at 7 pm on Zoom. We will discuss together what we have learned over the past year, individually and collectively, about our work with the Coalition and with The Listening Project, and about how we can best move forward together to move towards racial justice across our state. We welcome all to join us.”

Here is the link. Monday, March 21, 2022, 7:00 p.m.: [bit.ly/DRTMonthlyProgram](https://bit.ly/DRTMonthlyProgram)

Join Zoom Meeting: [us02web.zoom.us/j/86108590369](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86108590369)

Meeting ID: 861 0859 0369

One tap mobile, +19294362866, 86108590369# US (New York)

+13017158592, 86108590369# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 861 0859 0369

Find your local number: [us02web.zoom.us/u/kn2Inf3PO](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kn2Inf3PO)



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE RAISING TRANS KIDS IS MARCH 19TH FROM 2:00 -3:30 P.M.:** The Raising Trans Kids Community Group is for West Virginia parents, guardians, and families who are raising transgender or gender diverse kids (of any age), or have kids who might be transgender or gender diverse.

For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal) or [www.morgantownwvpride.org](https://www.morgantownwvpride.org). Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at [www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en).

The next "Raising Trans Kids" program will be on April 9th, also from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.



**WVU LIBRARIES' FOOD JUSTICE IN APPALACHIA EXHIBIT:** This exhibit is available in the WVU Downtown Campus Library through June 2022. To see an online exhibit and the presentations at the exhibit opening in October, go to [exhibits.lib.wvu.edu/exhibits/food-justice-in-appalachia](https://exhibits.lib.wvu.edu/exhibits/food-justice-in-appalachia).



**WVU LIBRARIES WOMEN OF APPALACHIA PROJECT'S 13TH ANNUAL "WOMEN SPEAK" VIRTUAL EVENT IS MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> FROM 1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.**

West Virginia University Libraries is pleased to announce it will once again host the Annual Women of Appalachia Project (WOAP) "Women Speak" performance, a juried presentation of story, poetry and song showcasing women artists living in or having strong ties to

Appalachia.

To register and get more information about the event, please go to

<https://wvu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAqceCqzpqGNQRinli6rE00i9V7PIx3EGh>.



**"68 VOCES, 68 CORAZONES" (68 Voices, 68 Hearts) MARCH 9, 9:00-10:00 P.M.:** Free Public Screening of beautifully animated short films, narrated in Indigenous languages of Mexico (w/English subtitles). Live virtual Q&A with filmmaker Gabriela Badillo. Attend this event in WVU's Gluck Theater, OR register for the ZOOM at: <https://nas.wvu.edu/>

Co-sponsored locally by Native American Studies and WVU World Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics. Presented by the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management, American Indian Commission of Denver, and Denver Museum of Nature & Science, in partnership with the Consulate General of Mexico in Denver.

**U.S. POET LAUREATE JOY HARJO** (Muscogee (Creek) Nation) will be our honored guest April 4-6, 2022. All are welcome to attend Ms. Harjo's poetry presentation on Tuesday, April 5th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Blue Ballroom of the WVU Mountainlair Student union or Attend VIRTUALLY. There will be music by award-winning flute player Cody Blackbird, starting at 6:30 p.m.; book sales and a display start at 6:00 p.m. in the Gold Ballroom. Ms. Harjo was recently appointed to a third term as Poet Laureate.



**WVU LGBTQ+ CENTER MARCH MICRO-EDUCATION MODULES:**

**MARCH 1ST FROM 1:00 TO 1:30 P.M.: LGBTQ+ DISCRIMINATION,** Led by a student ambassador, this LGBTQ+ discrimination module will explore some of the historical contexts of LGBTQ+ discrimination in what is currently known as the United States. We will then look at contemporary cases and legal battles. Finally, we will explore some of the ways that we

can combat LGBTQ+ discrimination as individuals and together as a community. Register at <https://wvu.zoom.us/j/7JAuf-qrpjstEtZMomicf0WQw9IvFg-QkHK6>

**MARCH 9TH FROM 1:00 TO 1:30 P.M.: WOMEN & BISEXUALITY:** Join us for a student ambassador led micro-educational module on Women and Bisexuality for Bisexual Health Awareness Month! This module will explore the intersections of women's experiences navigating bisexuality, especially regarding misconceptions and sexism faced both within and outside of the community. We will also be discussing women's health and safety within the module, whether it be physical or mental, as well as Bi Icons who've helped reform history. Registration at [wvu.zoom.us/j/7JMude2rrT0sHN1cPOhFBdRpRzTgpA-lu](https://wvu.zoom.us/j/7JMude2rrT0sHN1cPOhFBdRpRzTgpA-lu).

Go to the Center's website at [lgbtq.wvu.edu/events](https://lgbtq.wvu.edu/events) to join the Center's website and/or register for events. You can follow the Center on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WVULGBTQCenter/](https://www.facebook.com/WVULGBTQCenter/)



**WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH SELECTED SPRING SEMESTER EVENTS:**

**March 3, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.:** The WVU Pre-Health Office, Minorities Aspiring in Health Professions Student Organization, and the Honors Live Learn Community will host a screening of the documentary film, "**Black Men in White Coats,**" in the Fukushima Auditorium (HSN-H Room 1901).

"Less black men applied to medical school in 2014 than in 1978 and black men have the lowest life expectancy in the United States. With only 2% of American doctors being black men, this comes as no surprise. This documentary dissects the systemic barriers preventing black men from becoming medical doctors and the consequences on society at large.

“Discussions will be lead by students representative from the MAHPs organizations. Join us to learn more and be a part of this important discussion!

“Everyone is welcome to attend. RSVP is encouraged but not required.”

**March 8:** Zoom @ 7:00 p.m. International Women's Day: Honoring the Black Feminist Struggle for Freedom and Equity. \*Sisterhood Coalition. This is a panel discussion honoring the Black feminist struggle for freedom and equity. Join Zoom meeting at [wvu.zoom.us/j/98449116013](https://wvu.zoom.us/j/98449116013)

**March 9:** Zoom @ 7:00 p.m. Brotherhood Coalition: Black Men In Movement  
Join Zoom meeting at [wvu.zoom.us/j/97182270198](https://wvu.zoom.us/j/97182270198)

**March 30:** Zoom @ 7:00 p.m. Brotherhood Coalition: Black Men's Mental Health Matters  
Join Zoom Meeting <https://wvu.zoom.us/j/95202477801>

**March 31:** Zoom @ 7:00 p.m.: Trans Day of Visibility: Honoring Black Trans Lives and Legacies with Da'Shaun Harrison (they/them). \*BQSC. Join Zoom meeting at [wvu.zoom.us/j/92112603803](https://wvu.zoom.us/j/92112603803)

**April 4:** Zoom @ 7:00 p.m.: Brotherhood Coalition: Black Men In Leadership: A conversation with Jihad Dixon, Associate for Strategy and Operations for My Brother's Keeper Alliance, and president of the Black Alumni Association. Join Zoom meeting at [wvu.zoom.us/j/94053992957](https://wvu.zoom.us/j/94053992957)

**April 6 & 7:** Gluck Theater / Mountainlair Ballrooms: Center for Black Culture and Research Black Film Festival featuring several guest filmmakers.

**April 19:** Mountaineer Rhododendron Room @ 7:00 p.m.: A Space to Process: A group conversation with Felicia Hooper, MA, LPC, NCC with the WVU Carruth Center

**April 21:** Zoom @ 7:00 p.m.: Brotherhood Coalition: Our Safety: A panel Discussion on the perceptions of safety and belonging of Black men on college campuses. Join Zoom meeting at [wvu.zoom.us/j/97468465954](https://wvu.zoom.us/j/97468465954)

**April 27:** Rhododendron Room Mountainlair @ 7:00 p.m.: Brotherhood Coalition Mentorship Mixer: Welcoming WVU Alumni, faculty, staff, and community members to meet current students.

### STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS



**West Virginia Legislature Is In Session:** The legislative session started January 12<sup>th</sup>. While the information here is current as of “press time,” nothing is finished until the legislature concludes at midnight on March 12th.

You can go to [www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill\\_Status/bill\\_status.cfm](http://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Status/bill_status.cfm) to search by bill number or subject. This will identify the delegates and senators who introduced the bill, the committees considering it, and its status. Sometimes nothing happens on a bill that is introduced, and it dies at midnight on March 12th. Sometimes it gets through one committee or one branch of the legislature but dies in a second committee or in the second branch. Sometimes bills move very quickly so it is important to let your legislators know your opinion. The next important deadline is



**“cross-over day,” March 2.** This means that bills introduced in the House of Delegates or Senate must clear the House or Senate, respectively, by midnight on that day, to allow time for consideration by the other chamber, time for conference committee work on amendments, etc.

You can find contact information for your legislators at [www.wvlegislature.gov/House/roster.cfm](http://www.wvlegislature.gov/House/roster.cfm) and [www.wvlegislature.gov/Senate1/roster.cfm](http://www.wvlegislature.gov/Senate1/roster.cfm). Most of Monongalia County is in House District 51 (Delegates Barbara Fleischauer, Evan Hansen, Joe Statler, Danielle Walker, and John Williams) and Senate District 13 (Senators Bob Beach and Mike Caputo).



**THE WEST VIRGINIA COALITION FOR TRUTH IN HISTORY STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Last month, we focused on SB 498, cynically titled the “Anti-Racism Act of 2022.” It was introduced into the Senate Education Committee, but no further action took place on that bill.

The next focus was **HB 4011**, which passed out of the House Education Committee quickly and moved to the House Judiciary Committee. Our extensive lobbying seems to have paid off, as, on February 25th, the House Judiciary Committee vote 13-9 to send the bill to a study committee for consideration for the next legislative session. In addition to overwhelming opposition at a public hearing from educators, parents, religious leaders, and others, and numerous phone calls and emails to legislators, there were editorials in newspapers around the state opposing this bill. It is still possible that the substance of this bill might get amended into **SB 704**,

**HB 704**, allowing parents, grandparents, and guardians to inspect instructional materials in classroom, which passed out of the Senate Education Committee and is up for first reading in the Senate on February 28th. **Please call your senators now.** You can get that contact information at [www.wvlegislature.gov/Senate1/roster.cfm](http://www.wvlegislature.gov/Senate1/roster.cfm).

**HB 4016**, Creating The Anti-Racism, Anti-Sexism, and Prevention of Political-Economic Bias in School Curriculum and Pedagogy Act of 2022, did not get out of the House Education Committee.

**SB 587**, Providing tip line to report teaching of critical race theory, did not get out of the Senate Education Committee.

Join us in this work by emailing [wvtruthinhistory@gmail.com](mailto:wvtruthinhistory@gmail.com). Meetings are held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. You can also follow the work at [www.ccsjwv.org/wvct1.html](http://www.ccsjwv.org/wvct1.html).



**WEST VIRGINIA NOW:** West Virginia NOW is online at [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow](https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow) and [wvnow.org](http://wvnow.org). The chapter is particularly following abortion-related bills during the legislative session. You can get legislative updates from [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNOW](https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNOW).

**HB 2232** apparently died at the House Judiciary Committee level. That bill would have allowed provided a process by which a city may hold an election to recall an ordinance. It was widely considered to be a means by which communities could recall any ordinance that protected human rights at the local level, like repealing Morgantown's CROWN Act.

**HB 269**, the **Youth Mental Health Protection Act**, which would have enabled the state to revoke the license of any medical practitioner that subjects a child to conversion therapy, died at the committee level.

The **Fairness Act** (Prohibiting unlawful discriminatory practices covered by Human Rights Act and Fair Housing Act) would expand the state's human rights ordinance to include banning discrimination in employment and public accommodation based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or familial status. This is **SB 156** and a companion bill, **HB 2538**, both died at the committee level.

**SB 256** and **HB 2697** both died in committee. These said that "All persons within the boundaries of the State of West Virginia have the right to be free from any violence, or intimidation by threat of violence, committed against their persons or property because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, or sex, disability, gender identity, or sexual orientation."

**HB 2232** died in the House Judiciary Committee. It would have provided a process by which a city may hold an election to recall an ordinance. There is a general consensus that this could be used to recall ordinances that provide protections that are not otherwise covered by state law. For Morgantown, this could have included the CROWN ordinance and the ban on conversion therapy.

**HB 2698** and its companion bill, **SB 148**, would have prohibited "racial discrimination based on certain hair textures and hairstyles." Both bills died at the committee level.



**ACLU BILL OF RIGHTS BASH IS MARCH 19TH:** "Join the ACLU-WV staff, board and friends for an evening of civil rights and celebration!"

"We hope you can be a part of our Bill of Rights Bash fundraiser this year as we celebrate the work of the ACLU of West Virginia, honor giants in the civil liberties community, and look forward to the challenges ahead.

"Three outstanding West Virginians will also be honored at this event: Rabbi Victor Urecki and Ibtesam Barazi will receive the Sid Bell Memorial Award for their service to the ACLU of West Virginia, and West Virginia Delegate Danielle Walker will receive the Roger Baldwin Award for her service to our state.

"Interested in being a sponsor? [View sponsorship options and descriptions here](#), and contact Rose Winland at [rwinland@acluwv.org](mailto:rwinland@acluwv.org) with questions.

"We are looking forward to seeing you at the Bill of Rights Bash!" The event will be held at the Beni Kedem Temple, 100 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV 25301.

The **ACLU** is also tracking hundreds of bills during this legislative session. Go to [www.acluww.org/en/see-what-were-tracking-2022-legislative-session](http://www.acluww.org/en/see-what-were-tracking-2022-legislative-session) to see bill numbers, short summaries, and whether the ACLU supports, opposes, or is neutral on each bill.



**Registration is now open for the Appalachian Queer Youth Summit:**

“This free camp will bring together young West Virginians either identify as LGBTQ+ or come from LGBTQ+ families from across the state, and give them the tools they need to organize and advocate for the issues they care about.

“Campers will learn how to talk to legislators, run effective meetings, tell powerful stories, and more, and will participate in a collective action to better the lives of LGBTQ+ people after the camp concludes. Perhaps

most importantly, AQYS campers will get to be themselves for a weekend around people who understand them.

“The 2022 Summit will take place at Jackson's Mill in Lewis County from late morning on August 1st to the afternoon on August 5th.”

For more information and the registration link, please go to [action.aclu.org/webform/wv-aqys-2022](http://action.aclu.org/webform/wv-aqys-2022).

The summit received national publicity in the Spring 2022 issue of the *ACLU Magazine* with a short story entitled “S’mores, Songs, and Activism.”

**DIVERSITY EVENTS CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2022**

From [www.diversityresources.com/2022-diversity-calendar/](http://www.diversityresources.com/2022-diversity-calendar/)

Women’s History Month: honors the vital role of women in American history

3/2 – Ash Wednesday (Christian): a day of prayer and fasting, Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent

3/8 – International Women’s Day: celebrates the various (social, economic, cultural, political) achievements of women

3/10 – Birthday of Harriet Tubman (Black American): abolitionist and activist, best known for her role on the Underground Railroad

3/17 – St. Patrick’s Day (Irish): Feast of Saint Patrick, a cultural and religious celebration held around the world

3/21 – International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (United Nations): after an incident in which police killed 69 people in South Africa in 1960, the UN created this event to call for elimination of racial discrimination

3/19 – Holi (Hindu): holidays celebrating the winter harvest and the onset of spring