



SGFMC Action for Justice News

This is a limited compilation of **CURRENT** opportunities for action. **Additional suggestions are welcomed at:** marynpaul@comcast.net We will make every effort to share them as quickly as possible.

"Thus says the Lord GOD: Cry out full-throated and unsparingly, lift up your voice like a trumpet blast." -Isaiah 58: 1

August 15, 2025

PEACEMAKERS:

- ** Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, August 30th**, following the 5PM Mass – in the North transept of **ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park ****
- ** Monthly TAIZE Prayer for Peace – Friday, September 5th -7:30PM at Ascension Church, 808 S. East Ave****

ECONOMIC ACTION: <https://thepeoplesunionusa.com/>

- Aug. 1-31: Walmart, McDonald's Lowe's.**

TAKE ACTION:



<https://www.mobilize.us/indivisiblechicago/event/825519/?fbclid>



201 E Randolph (Michigan & Randolph near Millennium Park) -

Gather at 11:00 a.m. | Program at 11:30 a.m.

This Saturday, Aug. 16 in downtown Chicago, we're rallying and marching to **Stand With Texas**.

Special guests: Texas Democratic legislators who left their state to block this outrageous power grab.



Weekend PHONE BANKS: Sat. 8/16, 4-5:30pm (support Abigail Spanberger for Governor of Virginia) - Sun., 8/17 4-5:30pm (these Illinois GOP reps voted against Medicaid!)

Sign up HERE: <https://www.mobilize.us/indivisibleil/event/819209/?emci=519baa4e-a477-f011>

*This Week's Indivisible Illinois
Rockin' Zoom Phone Banks!*

Saturday, Aug. 16, 4-5:30pm

**Call Voters in Bellweather Virginia to Help
This Dem Candidate Turn Virginia Blue in
their November 2025 Election!**



VA gubernatorial candidate
Abigail Spanberger

Sunday, Aug. 17, 4-5:30pm

**Let Voters in IL-12, 15 & 16 Know Their
GOP Reps Voted Against Medicaid!**

*Thousands of voters in these
sprawling Red districts still aren't
aware of the health catastrophe
Miller, Bost, & LaHood voted for!*





CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!! DEADLINE: SUNDAY, AUG. 17th



Forest Preserve District of Cook County · Follow

11h · 🌐



📷 Don't miss your chance—the Forest Preserves Photo Contest is NOW OPEN!

Capture the beauty of the Forest Preserves of Cook County and share your best shots—whether it's breathtaking landscapes, striking wildlife, seasonal wonders, or joyful outdoor moments.

Submit up to 5 entries by August 17 through our online form.

🏆 Winning photos will appear in our 2026 Wall Calendar, on social media—and winners will receive 10 calendars plus a special prize package!

👉 View full details and enter here: fpdcc.com/photo-contest

INDIVISIBLE <https://indivisible.org/resource/redistricting-coup-underway?akid>

"Immediate priority: 'trifecta' states for responsive redistricting (CA, IL) — Call and email Governor JBP, to commit to responsive redistricting prep now. That means making a public commitment, reviewing and updating state laws if needed, coordinating with legislative leaders, and being ready to act in a special session if Republicans gerrymander first. [Get the call script here](#) or [use our email template here](#)."

Summer Thursday Evening Postcards!!

Community Event · Hosted by Indivisible West Suburban Chicago



Time

Thursday, August 21

7 – 8:30pm CDT



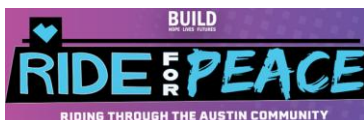
Location

23 E 31st St

La Grange Park, IL 60526

POSTCARDS to voters (hosted by Indivisible West Suburban Chicago) – @ "Hop District", 23 E. 31st St. – La Grange Park - Thurs. 8/21 – 7-8:30 PM "Grab a cold one, meet like-minded people, and save democracy at the same time!! **We supply the cards, you supply the stamps!**" (\$.61/each)

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/800840/>



Ride for Peace in Austin – BUILD CHICAGO, 5100 W Harrison – Saturday, August 30th – 10am (ride starts at 11am sharp).

"We Ride for Peace for a safer Chicago! Meet us at the BUILD Campus for a peace ride through the Austin community."

REGISTER: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hQuOgqbXf02g1JqW7hc8NpVy>



Interested in Running for Local Office? "While 2027 may seem far away, it's time to start thinking about it NOW. In partnership with the Greater Palatine Area Democrats, Wheeling Township Democrats, and Barrington Area Democrats, we have 3 upcoming informational sessions.

Attend a Zoom meeting **on October 23, and/or November 11.** These will be just introductory sessions to give you the basics as you start to think about your campaign."

(Click **HERE** and scroll down to the date you prefer: <https://www.gpadems.org/calendar>)

["**BE the change you want to see in the world....**"]



The People's Post Alliance: Say No to Postal Privatization. SATURDAYS 10AM-Noon
Chicago Bulk Mail Center (entrance on Roosevelt Rd on the sidewalk in front of the Taco Bell
7500 Roosevelt Rd)

https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/802569/?followup_modal_context=organization_newsletter_custom_recommendations



Support Workers on Strike for Immigrant Protections – "Workers at Mauser Packaging Solutions, **2000 S. Kilbourn (Little Village)** are in their 8th week of strike unfair labor practice strike, for livable wages, health and safety on the job, and immigrant protections from intimidating workers because of their status." Workers are on the picket line every day, and are **asking the community to come out and bring food**. If you are able to help, please send an email to ethan@ariseschicago.com



STOP Congressional budget cuts to Tribal college funding!

"The Department of the Interior has proposed an **83% cut** to Tribal college funding... Treaty rights negotiated with the federal government require funding of at least \$40,000 per student. The truth is that right now, already, our communities don't get funding even close to that. But instead of closing the \$250 million funding gap that already exists, Congress is poised to widen it, catastrophically. That is not just negligence, it's illegal and immoral."

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/protect-tribal-colleges-from-budget-cuts/?source=group-native-organizers-alliance&referrer>

the Neighborhood



The Neighborhood Bridge is launching a volunteer-staffed Essentials Pantry in the former rectory at St. Catherine-St. Lucy in mid-August.

The Neighborhood Bridge, born out of the Renew My Church initiative, is dedicated to connecting Austin families with the services they need to thrive. Families from our 5 partner schools in Austin will be able to receive household necessities, such as cleaning supplies, toiletries, and baby products. Volunteers are needed to receive, stock, and deliver items to the schools. The commitment is fewer than 4 hours per week. To volunteer, contact *Pantry Coordinator, Christine Wedekind*, at christine.wedekind@aol.



Housing Forward is scheduled to open a new emergency overnight shelter with 40 beds in September at 112 S. Humphrey Avenue in Oak Park. This is twice as many beds as were available at the Saint Catherine of Siena-Saint Lucy Ministry Center. **This means additional volunteer opportunities to not only provide meals, but serve and interact with guests, similar to the prior PADS model, but without the distraction of traveling locations!**

Volunteers are a key to the success of the emergency shelter. Between the emergency overnight shelter and the Interim Housing Program, **we provide 1,260 meals every week!** Individuals and groups are welcome to be part of creating a safe and stable place for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Contact Cherrell Jackson, volunteer and volunteer outreach manager, at cjackson@housingforwar.org or via phone at (708) 338-1724 ext. 201

FOOD and SHELTER:



Your NPR news source

FOOD AID 2025 – August 22nd & 23rd

8/22 & 8/23 (Robert's Westside, 6:30-11pm) TICKETS: <https://dice.fm/partner/dice/event/dk9oog-food-aid-2025-cracker-roberts-westside-night-1> **8/23 (O'Sullivan's Public House, Noon – dusk) - FREE**

WBEZ is proud to partner with [Robert's Westside](#) for the fourth annual [Food Aid Festival](#), a two-day musical celebration addressing food insecurity in Chicago's Westside communities and neighboring suburbs.

Food Aid's mission is to prevent individuals and their families from experiencing hunger. We believe that food insecurity should not exist, as the right to food is a human right. Through music and entertainment, Food Aid will serve as an important funding source for interconnected community organizations and initiatives aimed at addressing food insecurity.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Unity Fridges (SUA), Beyond Hunger, A House In Austin, Austin Eats Initiative, Best of Proviso Township and Westchester Food Pantry.



Help WORLD CENTRAL KITCHENS scale up to 1 Million meals/day in Gaza.

Update as of August 14, 2025: "World Central Kitchen founder Chef José Andrés is visiting Gaza and Israel this week to advocate for a dramatic increase in humanitarian aid to Palestinians to avert starvation, the release of all Israeli hostages, and an end to the war.

WCK has served more than [145 million meals in Gaza](#) and more than [two million in Israel](#) since the start of the war. Gaza meal production is currently about 200,000 daily, but [cooking has been greatly reduced](#) this year as food supplies have been halted or constrained.

WCK is seeking to rapidly scale up production to an unprecedented one million hot meals a day."

<https://wck.org/news/gaza-update-8-14>



WE ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR - PLEASE SEE THE SUMMER DONATIONS LIST LINKED BELOW. Items can be dropped off only on Mondays between 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM at Centro San Edmundo (the former Saint Edmund School), 200 S. Oak Park Avenue - Use the Pleasant Street door. **WE ARE ALSO SEEKING FINANCIAL DONATIONS FOR THE MIGRANTS' LEGAL DEFENSE FUND - Please mark "Legal Defense Fund" on your donation.**



BEYOND HUNGER -Drop-Off hours at the Food Pantry: 848 Lake St., Oak Park, IL) 9am-4pm Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday. <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/donatefood>

WESTCHESTER FOOD PANTRY



WET NOSE PANTRY [1938 S. Mannheim, Westchester]

Food reclamation volunteer needed for 4th Monday and 4th Friday of each month--What is food reclamation? It's when volunteers go to a designated store to claim food that is no longer sellable,

but still perfectly edible. This commitment is once a month for a full year. In less than 24 hours spread over a year, you could save tons of food from landfills and get it to our neighbors in need.

What are the requirements?

- Food pick-up must be done between 11am-1pm
- Be able to lift boxes weighing up to 30 pounds.
- Have a larger vehicle (minivan, SUV, station wagon).

Interested? [Email us at Info@Westchesterfoodpantry.org](mailto:Info@Westchesterfoodpantry.org).

CREATION CARE:



SIERRA
CLUB

Wed. August 20th, 6PM CDT – RSVP:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/events/details?id=701Po0000127HIdIAE>

LIVESTREAM

SIERRA CLUB WEBINAR
DATA CENTERS: POWER PLAYS - BUT WHO PAYS?

EXPLORE HOW THE RUSH TO BUILD LARGE DATA CENTERS IS DRIVING A NEW CLIMATE CRISIS AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT

• WEDNESDAY
• August 20, 2025
• 7pm ET / 4pm PT



Creation Care Corner

LAST CALL for Energy Efficiency/Clean Energy Tax Credits

Recent legislation has cut short the timeline of federal energy efficiency and renewable energy tax credits. Improving energy efficiency and electrification reduces carbon pollution, while also saving money on bills.

Homes: Available tax credits include up to \$3,200 per year for qualified improvements on your home **until Dec. 31st, 2025**. The credit is 30% of certain qualified expenses for certain energy efficient appliances and weatherizing your home: including \$150 for home energy audits; \$250 for an exterior door (\$500 total for all exterior doors); \$600 for exterior windows and skylights; central air conditioners; electric panels and certain related equipment; \$2,000 for select highly efficient electric heat pump water heaters and electric heat pumps.

Vehicles: The federal tax credit for new and used EVs ends after **Sept. 30, 2025**. To claim up to \$7,500 for a new EV or \$4,000 for a used vehicle, you must purchase and take delivery before the deadline. Eligibility rules still apply and income limits remain in effect.

Home energy: The credit is worth 30% of the cost to install qualifying systems that use solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, or fuel cell power to produce electricity **until Dec. 31st, 2025**.

For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/CCCornerTaxCredits>
AND www.energystar.gov/about/federal-tax-credits



[Tell the State of Michigan to reject Enbridge's permit for its proposed tunnel under the Great Lakes at the Straits of Mackinac!](#)

"Oil giant Enbridge wants to extend a lifeline to its more than 70-year-old Line 5 pipeline by tunneling under the Great Lakes at the Straits of Mackinac in Michigan. This six-year project would have profound impacts on the local community and could increase the likelihood of a catastrophic oil spill into the heart of the Great Lakes at the critical connection between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron." **READ full impact statement. COMMENT deadline 8/29**
<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0578045&id=>

SAVE THE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!



"Registration is NOW OPEN for Fall 2025 cohort on **Whiteness & Anti-racism**, designed for people who are white to deepen awareness of identity, privilege, positionality to power and more, plus integration of learning into our everyday lives. It meets Sunday afternoons starting October 19th from 2pm -5pm central time over the span of a month. It is important to attend all 4 sessions - they are designed to build upon one another. While life gets complicated and we always affirm that, attendance is expected as part of our group cohesion each cohort."

Session 1 - October 19: 2pm-5pm - WHITENESS & SOCIALIZATION

Session 2 - October 26: 2pm-5pm - IDENTITY & PRIVILEGE

Session 3 - November 2: 2pm-5pm - ALLYSHIP & RACISM INTERRUPTION

Session 4 - November 9: 2:pm-5pm - SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION & MOVING FORWARD

https://raceconsciousdialogues.corsizio.com/event/6835e3e1d7f8deedee0d5eed?mc_cid=f6072b6322&mc_eid=a3bbbebe66



3rd Annual "WALK TOWARD HEALING"- Sunday, Sept. 14, 2-5 PM – Elmhurst Univ. (190 Prospect, Elmhurst, IL.) Help support survivors of gun violence!

<https://forms.everytown.org/a/il-elmhurst-walk-toward-healing-2025?contactdata=H9OG4MYjWokkVwj5zMSpRZEHERY7b>



Solidarity in Action Training Series

- [Creating Mutual Aid/Community Response Teams \(Part 1\), with Stephanie Rearick](#) -- September 15 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT
- [Creating Mutual Aid/Community Response Teams \(Part 2\), with Stephanie Rearick](#) -- September 29 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT
- [Understanding Systemic Oppression and Privilege, with Tim Wise](#) -- October 21 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT

https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/807964/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20250808

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Immigration Ministry: BEING BRIDGES FRIENDSHIP AMID GRIEF AND ANGUISH, JOY AND HOPE – Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 | 7 p.m. Assumption Parish, 4323 West Illinois Street, Chicago, IL 60654 – Presenter: Steven Millies, Ph.D. Professor of Public Theology and Director of The Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.



Important dates in AUGUST: contact@socialjusticeresourcecenter.org

August 19th: [World Humanitarian Day](#)

August 23rd: [International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition](#)

August 24th: [Anniversary of the Medellin Conference](#)

August 26th: [Women's Equality Day](#)

August 28th: [Anniversary of March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom](#) & [Anniversary Martin Luther King's *I Have a Dream* Speech](#)

August 29th: [International Day Against Nuclear Tests](#)

August 30th: [International Day of the Disappeared](#)

AND...

(Evidently, *major insurance companies* think climate change is "real"...)

"For 40 days this summer, Illinois atmospheric scientist Victor Gensini and roughly 100 other specialists and students traveled the Great Plains to investigate severe the storms that cause tornadoes and thunderheads. They learned climate change seems to be altering the hailstones themselves. A warmer atmosphere, research from Gensini and others published last year in Nature suggests, can make hail bigger, heavier and more damaging to homeowners than some hurricanes and wildfires.

The severe storms resulted in \$60 billion in losses in 2024, according to the Insurance Information Institute, and insurers blamed **hail** as one reason for recent hikes to homeowners' insurance rates in Illinois. State Farm announced last month it's raising rates for more than 1.5 million homeowners in Illinois by an average of more than 27% beginning tomorrow. That rate hike followed another made by Allstate, which increased Illinois home insurance rates about 14 percent beginning in February. [[WBEZ/Inside Climate News](#)]"