

***Dear Colleague in Social Work in West Virginia,***

Below is an ongoing list of events, trainings, links, and resources to help NASW WV members, social work students and faculty, and others become more familiar with issues expected to come before the West Virginia Legislature and how to effectively shape them. The list is also designed to prepare you for a **Virtual Social Work Day at the Legislature** experience toward the end of February.

In the meantime, we strongly encourage you to participate in Civil Liberties Week of Action, Feb. 15-18, the Budget Breakfast on Feb. 17, and Virtual Recovery Advocacy Day on Feb. 23.

NASW WV's **2021 Legislative Action Priorities** are available on our website at [www.NASWWV.org](http://www.NASWWV.org)

## **CALANDER OF UPCOMING TRAININGS AND ISSUE EVENTS:**

**THURSDAY, FEB. 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**

**ACLU WV Citizen Activist Training**

If you're new to the legislative process or just looking for more information about how to navigate legislative session during a pandemic, join us for our Citizen Lobbyist Training.

[Citizen Activist Training – Thursday, February 11, 6:30 p.m.](#)

**MONDAY – THURSDAY, FEB. 15<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> – With different key issues each day**

**Civil Liberties Week of Action** (Formerly 'All Kinds Welcome Day')

This year we're doing things a little differently, starting with a week of engagement and base building with our organizational supporters and members. A virtual kick-off rally on Monday evening Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> will set the stage for us to focus on different key issues each day, Tuesday through Thursday.

Organizations/groups that partner on the event must agree and support the following core values:

- Racial Justice
- LGBTQ+ Rights
- Reproductive Health, Rights, & Justice
- Immigrant Rights
- Environmental Rights
- Criminal Justice Reform & Democracy Protection

We hope you join us as a partner! Please contact [julie@wvfree.org](mailto:julie@wvfree.org) with questions or fill out this Google Form to confirm your partnership in the event: <https://forms.gle/GbAAz8i1QtH5dD3o7>

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 – 9:30 AM**

**Budget Breakfast** – WV Center on Budget & Policy - Progressive perspective on the WV legislative session:

To register:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ehcq4n5v7cf231ec&llr=t7wc8jnab>

**TUESDAY, FEB. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9 AM – 12 PM**

**WVAADC\* Virtual Recovery Advocacy Day** (WV Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors)

To Register: <https://app.ce-go.com/virtual-recovery-advocacy-day>

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM**

**Top 40 Roundtable Series: Reentry: A Policy Discussion**

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/40-top-virtual-series-tickets-101663676794>

## RECORDED LOBBYIST TRAINING:

### Citizen Lobbyist Training

From Health Care for America Now/WV Citizen Action/ WV for Affordable Health Care

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pa3RGvVzSfKfNG5383o96aNO5J57FMTW/view?usp=drive\\_web](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pa3RGvVzSfKfNG5383o96aNO5J57FMTW/view?usp=drive_web)

(1 category II – individual professional activities – CE hour for WV Licensed Social Workers)

## RECORDED ISSUE BRIEFINGS:

### West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy FB LIVE Issue Discussions – FB LIVE Recordings

- **Preemption: Taking Local Property Tax Control Away from Counties**  
URL: <https://www.facebook.com/WVCBP/videos/745419059416601>
- **The Costs of Eliminating or Reducing the State Personal Income Tax**  
URL: <https://www.facebook.com/WVCBP/videos/743325053254661>
- **Shifting Public Education Funding to Private Schools COMING UP Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 5:30 PM**

Here are some of resources about tax messaging from Topos Partnership.

<https://www.topospartnership.com/making-a-case-for-taxes/>

### Budget & Tax Issues Update (WV Center on Budget & Policy) - Blog

WV's Governor & Legislative majority party propose eliminating the state income tax.

Learn why this is a BAD idea! Read Sean O'Leary's excellent blog at: <https://wvpolicy.org/how-do-you-pay-for-a-2-1-billion-tax-cut/>

### Policy Lookahead on Addiction and Recovery - Recording

If you did not catch the live event or want to watch it again: [Policy Lookahead Addiction and Recovery](#)

URL: <https://youtu.be/Tb00f8WzsmY>

## LINKS & RESOURCES:

### 2021 West Virginia Legislature Directory

[https://www.wvlegislature.gov/legisdocs/publications/info/DIRECTORY\\_2021.pdf](https://www.wvlegislature.gov/legisdocs/publications/info/DIRECTORY_2021.pdf)

### WV Center on Budget & Policy Budget Coalition

Sign on letter urging state leaders to protect revenues and public services in the upcoming session.

Press release [here](#) or

URL: <https://wvpolicy.org/broad-coalition-of-organizations-calls-on-state-leaders-to-protect-revenues-public-services-in-upcoming-legislative-session/>

Budget Coalition Letter [here](#) or

URL: <https://wvpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/020121-letter-to-state-leadership-31.pdf>

Here is an Action Alert link to send messages by email - **personal contacts are STRONGLY encouraged**

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/tell-wv-legislators-no-tax-cuts-for-the-wealthy-instead-invest-in-families-and-fight-covid?source=direct> link

Here is a letter specifically for higher ed staff and faculty to sign onto in support of protecting revenues and public services: <https://forms.gle/2UzFWQZqngnmaXcK7>

**Fair Shake Network Legislative Team Meetings** start Feb 10 & continue every week until Apr 7

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/99567449722?pwd=QWITb09ZV2ZLbVpVT2RlVTFuUm1MUT09>

Meeting ID: 995 6744 9722 & enter Passcode: 518862

### **Planned Parenthood South Atlantic**

Sign up for Prioritize Periods campaign alerts here:

<https://www.weareplannedparenthoodaction.org/a/prioritize-periods>

### **WV Environmental Council**

Sign up for our legislative updates and action alerts here:

<https://wvecouncil.org/civicrm/?page=CiviCRM&q=civicrm/profile/create&gid=14&reset=1>

### **WV Rivers Coalition**

Sign up for weekly water policy updates here: <https://wvrivers.salsalabs.org/policynews/index.html>

### **WV Citizens for Clean Elections**

Sign up for action alerts here: <https://wvoter-owned.org/action-alerts-signup/>

**The Kennedy Forum Mental Health Parity Model Legislation** (basis of proposed WV legislation):

<https://www.thekennedyforum.org/press-releases/new-model-state-parity-legislation-named-in-honor-of-former-u-s-rep-jim-ramstad/>

**2021 WV Health Care Agenda – West Virginians for Affordable Health Care:**

[https://www.healthcareforallwv.com/2021\\_health\\_agenda](https://www.healthcareforallwv.com/2021_health_agenda)

**WV Legislature Select Committee on Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse:**

<http://wvlegislature.gov/committees/house/housecommittee.cfm?chart=scptsa>

**WV Office of Drug Control Policy:**

<https://dhr.wv.gov/office-of-drug-control-policy/about/Pages/default.aspx>

**West Virginia Collegiate Recovery Network** - Offering peer recovery support services on seven higher education campuses:

<https://www.marshall.edu/crn/>

**NASW (National) 2021 Blueprint of Federal Social Policy Priorities:**

<https://www.socialworkers.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=KPdZqqY60t4%3d&portalid=0>

**(Federal) Biden Health Care Plan:**

[https://joebiden.com/healthcare/?campaign\\_id=9&emc=edit\\_nn\\_20210128&instance\\_id=26537&nl=the\\_morning&regi\\_id=72017625&segment\\_id=50580&te=1&user\\_id=031afa5ecb5a4fb8285b3304e4b10a96](https://joebiden.com/healthcare/?campaign_id=9&emc=edit_nn_20210128&instance_id=26537&nl=the_morning&regi_id=72017625&segment_id=50580&te=1&user_id=031afa5ecb5a4fb8285b3304e4b10a96)

**Press Release on Reopening ACA Marketplace:** <https://www.communitycatalyst.org/news/press-releases/president-biden-opens-door-to-health-care-coverage-and-protections-for-millions>

Video on the value of in-home family education programs, childcare, and other supports  
*Change the First Five Years and You Change Everything*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbSp88PBe9E>

WV Public News Service Feb. 9, 2021 Story on Personal Income Tax & Impact on Child Welfare  
<https://www.publicnewsservice.org/2021-02-09/childrens/wv-bid-to-abolish-income-tax-called-devastating-to-children/a73102-1>

## **FEDERAL ISSUES:**

### **ONGOING**

West Virginia Citizen Action Group & People's Action Deep Canvass Phonebank to WIN Covid Relief NOW!

Texting Tuesdays and Deep Canvass Phone Bank to get WV'ians to message or click through calls  
<https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/373911/>

Text with People's Action to Defend Democracy  
<https://www.mobilize.us/peoplesaction/event/289553/>

NASW (National) 2021 Blueprint of Federal Social Policy Priorities:  
<https://www.socialworkers.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=KPdZqqY60t4%3d&portalid=0>

(Federal) Biden Health Care Plan:  
[https://joebiden.com/healthcare/?campaign\\_id=9&emc=edit\\_nn\\_20210128&instance\\_id=26537&nl=the-morning&regi\\_id=72017625&segment\\_id=50580&te=1&user\\_id=031afa5ecb5a4fb8285b3304e4b10a96](https://joebiden.com/healthcare/?campaign_id=9&emc=edit_nn_20210128&instance_id=26537&nl=the-morning&regi_id=72017625&segment_id=50580&te=1&user_id=031afa5ecb5a4fb8285b3304e4b10a96)

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