

Guide to Activism and Civic Engagement

Springfield, IL





NOTE: This guide highlights a sample of local organizations committed to civic engagement and nonviolent approaches to change. There are also many more great causes in the Springfield area, but not all of them could fit into our little book.

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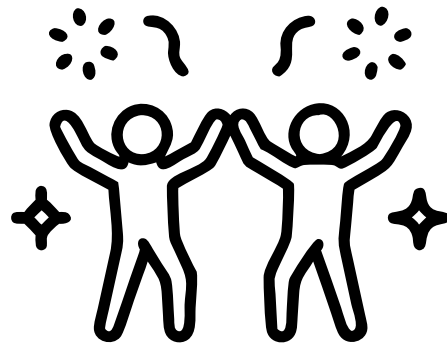
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So you want to get involved...
But not sure where to
start.



Well, we've got
GOOD news for
you...



County Board

Second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM

200 S 9th St
2nd FL, Rm 222
Springfield, IL

Springfield City Council

First and third Tuesdays of each
month at 5:30 p.m

300 S 7th St
3rd Floor
Springfield, IL



FAMILIES FOR CEASEFIRE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



A collection of 25 colorful icons representing various hobbies and interests. The icons include: a fishing rod with a lure, an open book, a guitar, a fishing hook, a button, a paintbrush, a camera, a football, a video game controller, a film strip, a popcorn bucket, a cooking pot with steam, a globe, a person in a leotard, a hand holding a paintbrush, a person with a baseball bat, a soccer ball, a movie camera, a dumbbell, a paint palette, a diamond-shaped object, a ball of yarn, a person on ice skis, a potted plant, and a bundle of pencils.

Here are a few options...

50501 Springfield, IL

Who they are:

50501 Springfield, IL is the **local chapter of 50501** movement, a national decentralized rapid response to the anti-democratic and illegal actions of the Trump administration and its plutocratic allies.

What they do:

Helps organize rallies and protests, provides political education and community relationship building by hosting open town halls/teach ins.

50501 supports the community with local mutual aid initiatives/events.

50501 encourages members to "do more" with their activism, from joining other local orgs, becoming more engaged in civics, promoting boycotts, creative resistance initiatives, and more!

When and Where:

Linktree



To get involved, please email:

50501spi@proton.me



Springfield Immigrants Advocacy Network (SIAN)

Who they are:

SIAN is a grassroots advocacy organization that **protects the rights and promotes the well-being and inclusion of Springfield's immigrant and refugee community** through advocacy, education, and assistance.

What they do:

SIAN celebrates the talents, experiences, and diversity that immigrants bring to our community.

They work for policies that improve the quality of life of immigrants and refugees in our community, that encourage their full participation in civic, cultural, social and political life, and that lead to the just and humane treatment of all who live here.

They also serve as resource for the public, the media, and civic leaders on issues that affect local immigrant and refugee communities and on their extraordinary contributions to the community and the local economy.

When and Where:

Check out SIAN's events and volunteer opportunities



Land of Lincoln Democratic Socialists of America

Who they are:

The Democratic Socialists of America is the **largest socialist organization in the United States**, with over 80,000 members and chapters in all 50 states. We believe that working people should run both the economy and society democratically to meet human needs, not to make profits for a few.

What they do:

We are a political and activist organization, not a party; through campus and community-based chapters, DSA members use a variety of tactics, from legislative to direct action, to **fight for reforms that empower working people**.

Tons of ways to get involved!

Working Groups:

- Comms Committee
- Queer mutual aid
- Unhoused outreach
- Gardening
- Labor
- Book club



When and Where:

For more information, check out the Land of Lincoln DSA's Linktree:



Capital City Illinois Indivisible

Who they are:

Capital City Illinois Indivisible (CCII) is part of the worldwide Indivisible movement, comprised of thousands of local groups and over a million members who **take action to resist authoritarianism, build a democracy that works for all of us, and elect pro-democracy champions**. We formed in April 2025 to create an open and embracing community of individuals dedicated to preserving democracy and the rule of law for all. We uphold the principles of civic engagement, non-violence, and inclusion.



What they do:

We show up: **we march, rally and support other local advocacy groups'** actions and activities. We **write letters, we make phone calls, we provide information about pressing issues**. We try to make sure that important information about events and Actions is accessible to people who are not on social media.

When and Where:

We meet the **4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM**. Meetings are generally hybrid (live and Zoom). Location varies, but we post on the Springfield Advocacy Calendar and the IT Community Calendar.

Please contact capitalcityillinoisindivisible@gmail.com with questions. Or check out this CCII Linktree!



Good Trouble Alliance



Who they are:

The Good Trouble Alliance strives to live up to the ideals of civil resistance as we strategically fight authoritarianism and human rights abuses in America. Our vision is for **a US that functions as a full democracy as per the standards outlined by the EIU**. We aim to be the spark that ignites **a revolution of freedom and human decency**.

What they do:

We meet regularly to **have fun, learn strategic nonviolent struggle, share tools of resistance, and plan creative actions against oppressive institutions**. We spread joy through chalking messages of love for maligned or vulnerable groups, advocate for civil liberties, and strengthen community and civic engagement. We foster collaboration, hope, laughter, boldness, and positive change wherever injustice arises.

When and Where:

For meeting times or more information, contact us at **goodtrouble.springfield@gmail.com**. Or check out our website, follow us on Bluesky, or join our Discord community.

Website



Discord



Food Not Bombs

Who they are:

Food Not Bombs Springfield, IL is a local chapter of Food Not Bombs, an international movement dedicated to **provide free vegan meals to anyone, rich or poor, stoned or sober**. Food Not Bombs is dedicated to non-violence and operates using consensus-based decision making.

What they do:

Food Not Bombs Springfield does **public food distributions approximately twice a month**. We alternate between providing meals through Intricate Mind's Warm Meal Wednesday program and doing public distributions near the Lincoln Library in downtown Springfield. Most of the produce that we use for our meals is donated by local grocery stores.

When and Where:

If you are interested in participating in Food Not Bombs Springfield, please **join the Springfield Mutual Aid Incubator Discord server (QR code below)**. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram for regular updates on our planned distributions and volunteer opportunities.



Springfield Mutual Aid Incubator
(Home of Food Not Bombs Springfield)
Discord Invite

