

Just Budget Unity Tour in Chippewa Falls

Written by Building Unity WI, Tim Cordon

Wednesday, 05 May 2021 09:07 - Last Updated Friday, 07 May 2021 09:23



First stop in two-day tour to raise public awareness to the many serious crises that must be addressed by budget.

CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI - Today, May 5th, we will hold the first of 16 public speaking events that will happen in all 16 Joint Finance Committee member's districts. We will kick off our first event in the home district of State Senator Kathleen Bernier. This event is being led by our partner, Citizen Action - Wisconsin, and will occur in front of the Courthouse (711 N. Bridge St.) in downtown Chippewa Falls at noon.

The remaining 15 tour stops will occur on Friday, May 7th and Saturday May 8th. Three will be stand-alone events like the Chippewa Falls event and will occur in Rhinelander, River Falls, and Sheboygan. (Schedule and locations below)

The remaining 12 Joint Finance Committee Member districts will be visited as part of a two-day tour led by the Building Unity "UnityMobile." (pictured above) This two-day leg of the Just Budget Unity Tour will travel over 500 miles and will hold 12 public "speak-outs" calling for justice in the state budget. All events will be outdoors and covid-safe.

This 12-stop tour will be accompanied by Pastor Jonathan Barker of Kenosha, author of "Jesus Would Demand a Green New Deal" and one of the Wisconsin Seven who recently ended a

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22-day water-only fast demanding climate justice in the state budget, as well as Debra Gillispie of Milwaukee, the founder of the group Mothers Against Gun Violence, and other Wisconsin justice activists.

On the evening of Friday, May 7th at 6:30 PM, will conclude this tour day with a virtual gathering where we will share videos made by the Just Budget Video Project, as well as footage from the day's six tour stops. Register for Zoom link to attend this virtual event: <https://forms.gle/p6n79KH9pWsqGFrGA>

Members of the press and others will be given the first 10 mins to ask any questions about the tour or our Just Budget Video Project.

The Coalition for a Just WI Budget and partners hope that this statewide demonstration of unity will inspire others to ask what they can do to make sure that their voices are heard for justice during this budget season.

We hope to raise public awareness to the many serious crises that must be addressed by this budget. People in Wisconsin are hurting and the future is not looking good for our youth. It's time to care for each other and our planet home. Expanding medicaid, will save Wisconsin roughly \$1.6 billion and insure over 90,000 more people. Legalizing marijuana will increase tax revenue, employment, and economic development while reducing crime and our mass incarceration problem. Criminal justice reform that includes treatment alternatives and diversions, will save lives and Wisconsin tax dollars. Investing in clean water, energy conservation, and green energy jobs are investments that are needed for a livable future. It is time for fair taxation. We need to end the tax breaks to the wealthiest Wisconsinites and invest to bring health, prosperity, and equity to all of our schools and communities.

Just Budget Unity Tour Schedule:

Date

Dist.

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City

Location

Arrive

May 5th

SD 23

* Chippewa Falls

Courthouse - 711 N. Bridge St.

Noon

May 7th

SD 27

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Middleton

St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 7337 N. Hubbard Ave.

9:00 AM

SD 17

Dodgeville

Iowa Co Courthouse 222 N. Iowa St.

10:30 AM

SD 12

* Rhinelander

Hodag Park - 509 Hodag Park Dr

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11:00 AM

AD 31

Beloit

McKearn Park - 2711 Park Ave.

1:15 PM

AD 31

Elkhorn

Lot Across from 12 N. Church St.

2:30 PM

AD 26

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* Sheboygan

Fountain Park - 922 N. 8th St.

3:00 PM

AD 21

Oak Creek

Greenlawn Park - 7628 S. Howell Avenue

4:10 PM

AD 22

Racine

Cesar Chavez Community Ctr - 2221 Douglas Ave.

5:20 PM

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May 8th

SD 6

Milwaukee

Sherman Blvd. & Auer Ave.

9:30 AM

AD 18

Milwaukee

Sherman Blvd. & Auer Ave.

9:30 AM

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AD 30

* River Falls

Veterans Park

11:00 AM

SD 20

Cedarburg

Cedar Creek Park - N55 W6079 Portland Rd

11:30 AM

SD 5

Brookfield

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UU Church West - 13001 N. Ave.

1:00 PM

AD 39

Beaver Dam

Rotary River Walk Park - 110 W. Mill St.

3:15 PM

SD 14

Lodi

Gazebo North of 4 Corners (Hwys 60 and 113)

5:00 PM

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AD 50

Reedsburg

City Park - 222 N Park St

6:15 PM

* These events are stand-alone events and will not be joined by the Building Unity "UnityMobile."

Learn more about Building Unity and the Coalition for a Just Wisconsin Budget at

www.BuildingUnityWisconsin.org . We will be streaming much of the tour stops to Building Unity's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/buildingunitywi>