



Midwest
Innocence
Project

BE

THE

Light

FACES OF INNOCENCE • 2026 FUNDRAISER

Thursday, April 30, 2026 • 7-9pm

The Midland Theatre • 1228 Main Street • Kansas City, MO 64105

25 YEARS OF FREEDOM, TRUTH, AND JUSTICE

Midwest Innocence Project is honored to celebrate 25 years of representing innocent people in their fight for justice. *Faces of Innocence 2026*, our signature event, promises to be a celebration a quarter century in the making. Taking place on Thursday, April 30th, 2026, at the Midland Theatre in Kansas City, this will be a night you will not want to miss.

We invite you to join us as an event sponsor because progress in the fight for justice is never achieved alone. Every person who stands with MIP has helped build a powerful movement grounded in truth, courage, and hope.

Over the past quarter century, your support has helped bring home innocent people, provide social work support services, and advocate for policy to prevent future wrongful convictions. Together, we've turned moments of injustice into stories of resilience, and stories of resilience into lasting impact. We're honoring the legacy we've built together with a new venue, new sponsorship opportunities, and a brilliant theme – *Be the Light*.

Your partnership as a sponsor helps ensure that wrongfully convicted people have access to legal representation, social support, and the resources needed to claim their freedom. It strengthens our ability to educate people in our communities, advocate for policy reform, and prevent future injustices across five states: Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and Arkansas. All our funding stays right here in our community.

Every sponsorship helps us grow our impact: reaching new audiences, deepening our outreach, and sustaining our mission for the next 25 years and beyond.

Thank you for believing in this work, for standing beside the innocent, and for helping us build a system of fairness and freedom.

With gratitude,



Tahir Atwater
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Matt Jacober

Vice President: Amanda Sisney

Secretary: Willy Pegue

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Stephane Bradley

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Jennifer Nicholson

Ken Nixon

Jean Phillips

Eze Redwood

Lindsay Runnels

Will Shields

Julie Shull

Katie Sinuefeld

Pete Smith

Jonathan Steele

Cole Stewart

Kurt Swaim

Peg Van Wagoner

Craig Watz

Gene Willis

Waiting for Justice

NEBRASKA

63

IN 15 COUNTIES

IOWA

74

IN 35 COUNTIES

KANSAS

139

IN 28 COUNTIES

MISSOURI

396

IN 63 COUNTIES

TOTAL OPEN
APPLICATIONS

912

ARKANSAS

234

IN 49 COUNTIES

TOTAL AREA OF REGION COVERED BY MIP

338,785 SQ-MI

BLACK
56%

WHITE
37%

HISPANIC/LATINIX
4%

OTHER
2%

UNKNOWN
1%

MIP IS AN AN INDEPENDENTLY FUNDED INNOCENCE ORGANIZATION.
ALL DONATIONS MADE TO THE MIDWEST INNOCENCE PROJECT

STAY WITHIN OUR FIVE-STATE REGION TO DIRECTLY IMPACT CASES LOCALLY.

Faces of Innocence 2026

EVENT SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

Level	PRESENTING	EXONERATION	INNOCENCE	BAR	JUSTICE	FREEDOM	GAME	ADVOCATE
Contribution	\$25,000 \$24,232 tax deductible	\$15,000 \$14,232 tax deductible	\$10,000 \$9,232 tax deductible	\$6,500 \$6,050 tax deductible	\$5,000 \$4,550 tax deductible	\$3,000 \$2,700 tax deductible	\$2,000 \$1,700 tax deductible	\$1,500 \$1,200 tax deductible
Tickets to in-person event	8	8	8	6	6	4	4	4
Table	YES	YES	YES	—	—	—	—	—
Website recognition (logo or name)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NAME
Recognition in event email (logo or name)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NAME
Recognition on digital event materials	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NAME
Recognition on printed event materials	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		
Recognition on event signage	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES			
Recognition at Bar (NEW!)				YES				
Recognition at games and activities (NEW!)							YES	
VIP experience*	YES	YES	YES					
30-second video promotion	YES	YES						
Podium recognition	YES							
Listing throughout 2026	YES							

Note: if no logo is provided, name recognition will substitute in sponsorship benefit fulfillment.

* Innocence, Exoneration, and Presenting sponsors will receive access to our exclusive **Golden Hour Reception** at the Chandelier Bar in addition to a reserved table and tickets.

Not using all of your tickets?

Donate any unused Faces of Innocence tickets back to the ticket pool by emailing Tish Sjuts at tsjuts@themip.org.

 **YOU CAN HELP US CREATE A MORE JUST WORLD BY BECOMING A SPONSOR.**

The Midwest Innocence Project is a not-for-profit corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.



300 E 39th St
Kansas City, MO 64111

816-221-2166
office@themip.org

THEMIP.ORG

FOLLOW US @THE.MIP



MIP's mission is to educate about, advocate for, and obtain and support the exoneration and release of wrongfully convicted people in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. **We are an independently funded innocence organization** that is a part of the national Innocence Network. Our partnerships with law firms, law schools, and student volunteers allow us to provide the very best representation at no cost to innocent people within our region. **All donations made to the Midwest Innocence Project stay within our 5-state region to directly impact cases locally.**

FACES OF INNOCENCE ▪ 2026 FUNDRAISER

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The Midland Theatre ▪ 1228 Main Street ▪ Kansas City, MO 64105

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please fill out this form, including payment and **mail back to the address below** or email development@themip.org.

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsor Name _____

Contact Name _____

Contact Email _____

Contact Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

2025 SPONSORSHIP SELECTION

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting Sponsor - \$25,000 (<i>\$24,232 tax deductible</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Exoneration Sponsor - \$15,000 (<i>\$14,232 tax deductible</i>) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Innocence Sponsor - \$10,000 (<i>\$9,232 tax deductible</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bar Sponsor - \$6,050 (<i>\$4,840 tax deductible</i>) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Justice Sponsor - \$5,000 (<i>\$4,840 tax deductible</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Freedom Sponsor - \$3,000 (<i>\$2,700 tax deductible</i>) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Game Sponsor - \$2,000 (<i>\$1,700 tax deductible</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate Sponsor - \$1,500 (<i>\$1,200 tax deductible</i>) |

PAYMENT TYPE

- Check Enclosed Send Invoice Credit Card Credit Card

_____ CVC _____ Exp. Date _____ / _____

Signature _____

COMPANY LOGO

Please email your logo in **.pdf, .ai, or .eps** format to development@themip.org.
Hi-res, transparent .png file will also be accepted. If no logo is provided, name recognition will substitute in sponsorship benefit fulfillment.



THE MIDWEST INNOCENCE PROJECT
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