How you can engage in advocacy to protect public health

Dialogue4Health
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What APHA and other partners are doing in Washington to protect and improve public health

- Direct lobbying
- Writing letters to Congress and federal agencies
- Writing testimony for congressional hearings
- Submitting briefs to support or oppose court cases
- Submitting comments on proposed regulations
- Hosting educational congressional briefings
What APHA and other partners are doing in Washington to protect and improve public health

• These are all effective and important activities, but what it really comes down to is members of Congress hearing from their constituents.

• This is where you can play a key and influential role!
Advocacy activities for public health advocates

- Letters to Congress with state information
- Phone calls
- Hill visits or meetings in your district during recess
- Reach out to health LA
- Host meetings/roundtable discussions with legislators
- Join sign-on letters
- Invite legislators to site visits – show them how federal public health and prevention dollars are being used in their states
- Media advocacy – LTEs and op-eds to local newspapers on key public heath such as ACA/PPHF, CDC funding – mention legislators names – they will notice!
- Social media – share your letters, op-eds and other advocacy activities on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media platforms
APHA and other partner resources to help with your advocacy

• Educational webinars
• Fact sheets, issue briefs
• Tips for meeting with your members of Congress
• Tips for writing and submitting a letter to the editor and op-ed
  • Sample op-eds
• Advocacy sessions at APHA Annual Meeting
• Legislative update (APHA members only)
• Other PH partners also have excellent resources you can use in your advocacy
APHA advocacy tools

APHA action alerts

- Editable by user
- Reflect congressional activity
APHA and other partner advocacy tools

• Fact sheets
  ➢ State specific
  ➢ Climate change
  ➢ Discretionary health funding
  ➢ Prevention and Public Health Fund
  ➢ Benefits of the ACA

• Reports and issue briefs
ABOUT APHA
The American Public Health Association champions the health of all people and all communities. We strengthen the profession of public health, promote best practices and share the latest public health research and information. We are the only organization that influences federal policy, has a 140-plus year perspective and brings together members from all fields of public health. Learn more at www.apha.org.