



HEALTH CENTER
Advocacy Network

Tips for a Successful Meeting with Elected Officials

1

Make an Appointment

Schedule a meeting with the District office scheduler.

2

Clarify the Audience (*)

How you frame the question will depend on if you are addressing the elected officials themselves or their staff.

3

Identify the Goal of the Group

E.g. Get your Member of Congress to take action to pass long-term, stable funding with room to grow.

4

Bring Leave Behind Materials

Think about visual aids that will help your members remember why they must vote for long-term and stable funding. Consider bringing data materials specific to your health center. Try using the Vital Impact Estimator (<http://bit.ly/CHCFundImpact>).

5

Strategize

Plan who will speak and who will make which asks based on your group's goals (see other side for example).

Conversation Example



Person 1

- Introduce self and group.
- Thank the member* if they have been supportive of community health center funding in the past.
- One sentence about health centers that make us unique.

E.g. Good afternoon. My name is Bertha Jackson from Huntsville. Thank you for your* support of community health centers and the access to innovative care that we provide to ___ constituents in the district/state. We provide ___ jobs and generate \$5.73 per \$1 of federal funding.

Person 2

- Name and town/city
- Story + Ask. Share what your organization will do with long-term funding with room for growth and why is it important to a small business.

E.g. Hi. I am Shawnee Bensman from Lake Ridge. Lake Ridge CHC helped my son lower his A1C last year and he made the honor roll because he missed fewer classes and felt better overall. They are an essential part of our community. What is the Congresswoman/Senator doing to get long-term funding for Community Health Centers passed immediately?

Person 3

- Name and town/city
- Story + Ask (write a letter to leadership and ask colleagues to sign on)

Person 4

- Name and town/city
- Story + Ask (public support for CHCs through your social media)

Person 5

- Name and town/city
- Thank you for taking this time to meet with us. What is the best way to follow up with the Congresswoman/Congressman/Senator?