



You've spent time meeting with residents about their advocacy interests, collected contact information for lawmakers and crafted a plan to make a difference. Now the real work can begin! As you aim to meet your advocacy goals – whether they include registering more residents to vote, planning a visit to a community meeting, writing lawmakers, or any combination of dozens of other activities – make sure you're taking advantage of resources available to you.

Leverage Partnerships

As service coordinators, you have built partnerships with community leaders and organizations that benefit your residents. Consider ways a collaboration with any of those could benefit your advocacy efforts, such as helping residents cast ballots or connecting you with policy makers in all levels of government.

Identify Your Residents' Strengths

You've likely come across a few residents whose passions for particular issues or desires to advocate rise above the rest. If they're up to it, let them take the lead on encouraging peers to get involved and organizing community projects. Creative residents might be kept in mind to write a letter to lawmakers that can be circulated for signatures or to create signs promoting voting registration or Election Day information.

Turn to Your Membership Organization

AASC is always available to help! If you haven't already, contact AASC Director of Government Affairs Melissa Harris, to share the details of your advocacy plan. Whenever possible, AASC can provide guidance or assistance, which could include, among other things, sample letters to the editor, custom post card designs, one-pagers with research that highlights the issues you're advocating for, and contacts for lawmakers. Reach out any time at mharris@servicecoordinator.org or call (614) 848-5958.

