

The NC Hospital Association depends on strong advocates within every member hospital to join our efforts to shape the debate for local, state and national healthcare issues. As an advocate, we can work together to make sure the healthcare community is influencing policy decisions that will affect the future of healthcare. Lawmakers need to hear the voice of those in their communities, and we need your commitment to help make sure that happens. Join us!

Know the issues:

- ✓ **Attend a Legislative Briefing at your Hospital** (to occur prior to each legislative session)
Learn about the key legislative issues impacting healthcare in your community and hear questions from elected officials. As an advocate, we need you to understand the difficult questions around healthcare.

Build Relationships with Lawmakers:

- ✓ **Attend Hospital Advocacy Day**
Join hospital leaders and peers from across the state to talk to your elected officials in Raleigh about the impact that their decisions will have on healthcare in your community.
- ✓ **Let us know who you know**
Do you have a relationship with an elected official? These key connections could make a difference when we need to educate them on a critical issue. Let us know! <https://www.voterveice.net/NCHA/Relationships>
- ✓ **Commit to regular communication with an identified legislator** (min. once/quarter)
Regular interaction is paramount when building meaningful and genuine relationships with legislators. It shouldn't always be the hospital CEO expressing the importance of their community hospital. We need community stakeholders to spread this message. Record those interactions here: <https://www.voterveice.net/NCHA/Surveys/2736/Respond>
- ✓ **Organize a hospital tour/visit for an elected official** (local, state or federal)
Lawmakers need to see the work happening in healthcare on the frontlines in their community. These experiences witnessing that work and speaking with those key staff members who deliver that care will remain with them when statistics may be hard to recall. These stories matter!
- ✓ **Participate in at least one "Call to Action"** issued by NCHA during the legislative session
- ✓ **Contribute to HOSPAC**

Let Your Community Know:

- ✓ **Share the positive hospital story in your community**
Speak at 1 community event per quarter to share the positive story about your hospital and identify other potential advocates – Share these with your hospital's grassroots coordinator.
- ✓ **Organize a hospital tour/visit for an influential community leader**
Healthcare is complicated. Identify peers who may not understand the realities of patient care and invite them into the hospital to learn more. These opportunities help educate advocates one person at a time.
- ✓ **Encourage voter registration activities at your hospital**