

Quick & Easy Steps to Joining HCA's Budget Advocacy February 2024

- 1. Confirm within your organization who is going to coordinate these efforts
- 2. Use <u>this tool</u> to find the legislators that represent your service area and their contact information
- 3. Call the office of each representative & tell them your name, your agency/organization, the areas you serve, the types of services you provide, types of individuals you employ (i.e. nurses, home health aides, etc.), and the rough estimate of number of patients you provide services to
- 4. Ask them if you can schedule a meeting to discuss the needs of your organization and the field in this year's State Budget, and ask them for a meeting as soon as possible (ideally this would be an in-person meeting)
- 5. If they tell you that you can meet with a staff person instead of the member, that is totally fine!
- 6. If they request information ahead of time, send them the <u>HCA one page</u> document containing our Budget Requests
- 7. When preparing for the meeting, keep it simple! Share the same information listed in item 3, and let them know the challenges you are facing and how you and your patients will be impacted by these Budget actions. Reiterate the talking points on the HCA document. If you don't know an answer to something they ask, tell them you will get back to them with that information.
- 8. If you want help preparing, conducting, or following up after the meeting, contact Alex at afitz@hcanys.org and someone from the HCA Policy Team would be more than happy to assist you!

