

10 Things You Can Do To Continue Your Advocacy Efforts

1. Send thank you, follow-up letters to the legislators you meet at the Lobby Day (no later than 2 weeks after your visit).
2. Tell your friends, co-workers, and clients about your advocacy experience and encourage them to join in your efforts.
3. Add your elected officials to your organization's mailing list so that they can receive more information about the work of your organization.
4. In June set up district meetings with the representative and senators in your service area to urge their support for AIDS care and prevention services.
5. Over the summer invite the elected officials that represent your service area to visit your agency and facilities so they can learn more about your organization.
6. Make sure you are registered to vote at your current address.
7. Start a voter registration drive at work.
8. Vote in upcoming elections: be part of the decision-making process.
9. If your representatives and legislators are supportive of AIDS issues, write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper acknowledging their work.
10. Become an active member of AFC's Statewide Advocacy Network and encourage Mends, co-workers and consumers you work with to join the Network.

Websites with interesting information:

www.aidschicago.org - AIDS Foundation of Chicago

www.aidschicago.org/community -- AIDS Chicago Community Website

www.kaisernetwork.org - Daily HIV/AIDS Report

www.ilga.gov - Illinois General Assembly

www.vote-smart.org - Vote Smart website (information about legislators and candidates for election)