

How to Stay Connected

Try these ideas for sharing your story with state and local representatives they want to hear what you have to say...

- ❖ Write a letter to your representative
- ❖ Make a call to your representative
- ❖ Schedule an appointment to visit your representative
- ❖ Invite the media to a special event
- ❖ Write a letter to the newspaper editor
- ❖ Invite an official to attend a special event at your child care facility
- ❖ Write an article for your organizations newsletter
- ❖ Sign up and register to become an e-Advocate at www.winningbeginningsny.org , a statewide collation working to inform policymakers and the public about the many benefits of early care and learning for children from prenatal through age eight
- ❖ Join Early Care and Learning Council's Get Involved! www.earlycareandlearning.org
- ❖ Review the Winning Beginning NY Advocacy Tools, Congressional Social Media Wiki, Twitter Tip Sheet and assorted toolkits and worksheets including the WB NY Handbook – an A, B, C, guide to telling your story to improve the quality of early care and education. Available in English and Spanish. <http://winningbeginningny.org/take-action/wbny-advocacy-tools/>

Tips for writing letters or calling your Elected Officials:

- ❖ Use your own words, tell a personal story
- ❖ Be prepared know your reason and the bill you are referring to
- ❖ Speak clearly and type letters if possible
- ❖ Be reasonable and positive, ask for their position on the issue
- ❖ Make a personal connection

Meeting your legislator:

- ❖ Call ahead, ask for an appointment
- ❖ Prepare ahead of time, anticipate questions
- ❖ Be brief, know the issue
- ❖ Be willing to meet with legislative staff
- ❖ Keep in mind you know the early childhood issue they may not , don't be intimidated
- ❖ Be personable, prompt and courteous
- ❖ Bring your camera

Invite a legislator to visit your program or event:

- ❖ Be flexible
- ❖ Plan ahead
- ❖ Invite the media
- ❖ Don't forget your camera

Letters to the Editor:

- ❖ Be brief and know your subject
- ❖ Be legible
- ❖ Include your contact information
- ❖ Remember to make it a personal story

Most of all, for all the above tips on advocacy remember to say thank you in a personal note, send a picture that can be included on their website or newsletter, restate your facts.

Who are my Federal leaders?

<p>President of the United States</p> <p>President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500 (202) 456-1111 (Comments) (202) 456-1414 (Switchboard) president@whitehouse.gov</p>	<p>United States Senators for New York</p> <p>New York State Senator Charles Schumer 313 Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-6542 https://www.schumer.senate.gov/</p> <p>New York State Senator Kirsten Gillibrand 531 Dirken Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-4451 kirsten_gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov</p>	<p>House of Representatives</p> <p>United States Representatives Your Representative U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 Main Switchboard for Senate and House: (202) 224-3121</p>
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Who are my state representatives?

<p>New York State Governor</p> <p>Andrew Cuomo NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224 (518) 474-8390 http://www.governor.ny.gov/contact/GovernorContactForm.php</p> <p>Thank you for sharing your passion in improving the lives of New York State’s children. If you have any questions or need more information please contact Child and Family Resources, Inc. at www.cfresources.org or call 315-536-1134, toll free 800-881-5786.</p>	<p>New York State Senate Your Senator New York State Senate Albany, NY 12247 (518) 455-2800 (General) (518) 455-3216 (Public information) Bill Status Hotlines: (518) 455-7545 and (800) 342-9860</p> <p>Senator Michael F. Nozzolio – District 54 Wayne, Cayuga, Seneca, AND portions of Ontario, Tompkins and Monroe District Office 119 Fall Street Seneca Falls, NY 13148 Phone: (315) 568-9816 nozzolio@nysenate.gov</p> <p>Senator Rich Funke – District 55 Portions of Monroe and Ontario District Office 230 Packett’s Landing Fairport , NY 14450 Phone: (585) 223-1800 funke@nysenate.gov</p> <p>Senator Tom O’Mara - District 58 Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Yates, AND portions of Tompkins District Office 333 East Water Street (3rd Floor, Suite 301) Elmira, NY 14901 Phone: 607-735-9671 omara@nysenate.gov</p>	<p>New York State Assembly Your Assemblymember New York State Assembly Albany, NY 12248 (518) 455-4100 (General) (518) 455-4218 (Public information) Bill Status Hotlines: (518) 455-4218 and (800) 342-9860</p> <p>Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano - District 136 District Office 105 E. Steuben St. Bath, NY 14810 607-776-9691 http://www.assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Philip-A-Palmesano</p> <p>Assemblyman Brian Kolb - District 129 District Office 607 West Washington St. Suite 2 Geneva, NY 14456 315-781-2030 http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Brian-M-Kolb/</p>
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