

2023 Children's Hospital Association Family Advocacy Day

What You Need to Know

This summer, elevating patient stories and educating lawmakers about the unique role of children's hospitals will remain critical toward increasing awareness about the ongoing and essential care provided by children's hospitals.

Below please find information about the [2023 Children's Hospital Association's Family Advocacy Day](#), which will be held in-person **June 20-22, 2023**.

- **In which ways will the in-person 2023 Family Advocacy Day be *different* than the annual virtual Family Advocacy Day?**
 - This year's event program will run three days to provide hospitals with flexibility to schedule the families' hill visits with lawmakers, site-seeing around D.C., and media opportunities.
 - In addition to providing digital copies, CHA will provide hospitals with hard copy advocacy materials and customized digital advocacy assets about each child patient registered for the event.
- **How will the 2023 Family Advocacy Day be *similar* to previous Family Advocacy Days?**
 - Families will advocate to their lawmakers about the unique role of children's hospitals and our current legislative priorities.
 - Hospitals will be able to download CHA legislative issue briefs for use in advance of your family's meetings with lawmakers.
 - Social and traditional media will be more relevant than ever to amplify our collective advocacy efforts for children's hospitals.
 - Videos will be collected for effective storytelling and outreach to Congress.
 - To engage with families leading up to, during and after Family Advocacy Day, we will offer tools and resources for families to get to know and engage with one another.
 - Each child patient registered by April 5 will receive a Family Advocacy Day t-shirt and other event materials.
- **With which lawmakers should we schedule meetings or visits to our hospital?**

There are compounding fiscal and public health issues at the national, state and local levels. As a result, hospitals should consider scheduling meetings with state *and* federal lawmakers during Family Advocacy Day. If your hospital services a region, consider scheduling meetings with lawmakers who represent those states and districts.
- **What are the top public policy priorities to advance during Family Advocacy Day?**

Patient families will represent their children's hospitals to engage with lawmakers to increase awareness and advance public policy priorities to address:

- Timely access to doctors and other professionals trained to meet the unique health care needs of children.
- The vital role Medicaid and CHIP play in families' lives, providing health insurance to nearly half of all children.
- The mental, emotional and behavioral health emergency that children and teens are facing.

Hospitals are strongly encouraged to address one or more of these public policy issues during Family Advocacy Day.

- **What's the theme for Family Advocacy Day?**

Our overarching theme is "Fearless for Kids' Health." We chose Fearless for Kids' Health because, despite the many challenges they may face, our Family Advocacy Day champions remain fearless today for a better tomorrow in the fight for children's health. By coming together to share our stories this Family Advocacy Day, we can speak and act locally, while having an impact nationally. We are #Fearless4Kids.

- **Which types of activities will be for patient families?**

In addition to their legislator meetings and visits, patient families will engage in a range of activities in Washington, D.C.

- Our Family Advocacy Day website will offer families the opportunity to share video content with one another, their lawmakers and through social media on relevant child health issues—to further increase awareness about children's hospitals and our public policy priorities.
- Day 1: June 20 will include Washington, D.C. tours.
- Day 2: June 21 will have programming, briefings and hill meetings. We will host breakfast and lunch along with interactive advocacy training for all ages. In the evening, we are planning a fun dinner celebration with music and other family-friendly entertainment.
- Day 3: June 22 will be the official Capitol Hill Day. We will host breakfast at the hotel and a congressional luncheon on Capitol Hill.

- **Is it okay to register multiple patient families to participate?**

Yes! If your hospital is in a position to accommodate multiple families, you're welcome to register them. Each patient family registered for the event will receive priority attention from CHA.

- **Where do I register and how?**

Please register each patient family in our special [Family Registration portal](#). Hospital staff are required to complete and submit registration on behalf of their patient families. In advance of starting the online questionnaire, please review all listed instructions and send the registration questions to families so they can provide you with their responses. It will make completing registration much easier.

- **When is the registration deadline?**

To ensure each child patient receives a Family Advocacy Day t-shirt and your hospital receives customized trading cards before the event, each patient family must be registered by **Wednesday, April 5, 2023**.

We look forward to your hospital's participation during Children's Hospital Association's Family Advocacy Day, June 20-22. Please contact [Anna Megel](#) or [Elleni Almandrez](#) if you have any additional questions or need further assistance.