

Advocacy is a key tool to help boards advance their mission. Here are a few ideas to make advocacy a sustainable part of your board's work. The Housing Alliance is here to help!

Explore how advocacy fits your board's mission

Download the *Stand For Your Mission* Discussion Guide: standforyourmission.org

Check out the Housing Alliance's board advocacy tools: wliha.org/BAP

Sign up for email action alerts, and pledge to be a board advocate: tinyurl.com/BAP-Pledge

Build an advocacy framework for your board

Develop a culture of advocacy. Check out BoardSource's *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards*: standforyourmission.org/ten-basic-responsibilities-nonprofit-boards.

Make an advocacy plan and run with it. Understand what's fair game in board advocacy; set up a public affairs or advocacy subcommittee; add advocacy to job descriptions; and write an advocacy plan for the year. Check out these resources: wliha.org/BAP.

Include staff and clients. Learn more about how an organization can come together to become a force for change. Check out the "Agency-Integrated Advocacy" tool: wliha.org/BAP.

Contact the Housing Alliance for support. We can provide tailored support, board advocacy trainings, and legislative updates for your board. Contact Dimitri Groce: dimitrig@wliha.org

Cultivate relationships between lawmakers and your board

Know your lawmakers. Every board member should be registered to vote and know who represents them. Get started at vote.wa.gov and app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder.

Invite your lawmakers. Organizational events and programs organized or hosted by your board are great relationship-building opportunities.

Save the Date. Attend Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day in Olympia on February 1, 2018.