Build An Advocacy Network at Your Health Center

The Squeaky Wheel Gets the Grease

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“After all these years, we still firmly believe that health centers hold a key to solving many of today’s most pressing health care problems and to the success of any future health care reforms. As Senator Ted Kennedy noted, reflecting on the marvelous history of this unique movement, “If you didn’t exist, we would have to invent you.”

— Dan Hawkins, National Association of Community Health Centers
Network Defined

**Network** – an interconnected group

**Health Center Network** – A group of people who are connected by the unified message they voice about the policies and issues that affect their Health Center and its patients

**Members** – Board members, staff members, patients, community members

LARGE – STRONG – ACTIVE – LOUD
Establish a Standing Advocacy Committee
Create An Advocacy Plan

- Recruitment
- Engagement
- Training and education
- Relationship building
- Awareness
- Appreciation
Some Resources

- MPCA Advocacy Center
- NACHC Advocacy Center
- MPCA e-Update
- MPCA Facebook
- CHCs in the News
- National Health Center Week
- Faces of Michigan CHCs
- CHC/Patient Stories (NACHC)