

Federal Advocacy Pre-test

- Will have 15-20 item pre-test to complete. Consider giving to participants as they enter the room, before presentation begins. [not sure if we need to give it again as a post-test, too??]
- I am looking into using an audience response system of some sort. If this works out, we would not be able to have pre-test done before we started because we would need to show each question to the group. I found one option that is free, but requires the respondents to use their cell phones or an internet-connected device to respond. Thoughts on that? Is it even worth the trouble?

Planning for 2010

- The AACPD M Annual Assembly in 2010 is in Washington DC from October 13-16
- Although Congress will not be in session, the Academy will visit Capitol Hill
- Preparations for the AACPD M Day on the Hill are beginning already
- We need you!

What will happen in 2010?

- Our vision:
 - AACPD members will influence policy and legislation regarding a key issue related to children with developmental disability (especially CP).
- Major components of implementation:
 - Members attend meetings at their own Representatives' and Senators' offices to share information and expertise
 - Members visit federal agencies or partner organizations that may have synergistic goals

The Steps to 2010

- It begins today!
 - Identification of Academy Members who want to participate in direct advocacy work at the time of the 2010 Meeting. *This could be you!!!*
 - Compiling lists of legislators to target for visits.
 - Refining the message we want to deliver.

Your Commitment

- Let us know that you will play a role
- Identify (if you don't already know) your elected Representative to the House and your Senators and supply that information to us, so we can generate a list of appointments to request
- Ask other members of the Academy who are in your district or state if they would like to join you – and let us know if they want to be a part

Over the coming year

- We will stay in touch with you via e-mail every few months
- As the Meeting draws closer, we will ask you to join a conference call or two to contribute to the planning and organization of our efforts
- Your feedback and input to the message will be solicited
- You may choose to work on the message ahead of time AND take part in bringing the message to Capitol Hill – or you can just do one of these things
- In the last few weeks before the Meeting, expect several e-mails and maybe a conference call to bring the details together

The final push

- The Advocacy Committee will polish a message and advocacy plan for Members to use in their efforts in DC
- This information will be shared with all of the Members and may be adapted as needed
- In conjunction with the AACPD M Meeting, a training/educational/team-building session will be held for all the Members who will be doing this work
- A specific day will be designated for advocacy efforts

AACPDM Day on the Hill

- Small groups will meet with legislative assistants and others in scheduled visits to address the needs of children with developmental disability.
- These groups will have had special training and support
- This is likely to be the Tuesday before the meeting begins (October 12th)

Outcomes we hope to achieve

- Influencing legislation and policy implementation that will benefit children with developmental disability
- Energizing a larger segment of our membership toward advocacy work
- Identifying further opportunities for the Academy to work in these avenues