

American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Advocacy Liaison Network

Advocacy Liaisons are child and adolescent psychiatrists acting as the “eyes and ears” on legislative and regulatory affairs in their ROCAP areas.

Participating as an AACAP Advocacy Liaisons includes:

- **Participating** in monthly calls where they will hear updates on the latest federal and state legislative and regulatory priorities, **sharing** news from their respective states and regions, and **brainstorming** about key issues, which impact children’s mental health and the profession;
- **Leading and helping** local efforts to recruit, train and mentor child and adolescent psychiatrists within their ROCAPs to become involved in advocacy with the use of [advocacy training materials](#) developed by the Department of Government Affairs and the AACAP Advocacy Committee;
- **Organizing** strategic grassroots advocacy efforts within their ROCAP with the use of the AACAP Advocacy resources (ex: [AACAP’s Legislative Action Center, also known as Voter Voice](#)) and policy resources identified by the Department of Government Affairs and the AACAP Advocacy Committee;
- **Maintaining** message discipline when advocating on behalf of their ROCAP and/or AACAP;
- **Working** with collaborative partners and organizations to promote the mental health care of youth, **joining** together to advocate in one’s region;
- **Engaging** child and adolescent psychiatrists, trainees, local youth, and families to participate in the AACAP Legislative Conference.

ROCAPs are encouraged to include the Advocacy Liaison as a member of the Regional Organization’s Executive Committee to more seamlessly integrate advocacy into the activities of their ROCAP. ROCAPs are asked to identify at least one Advocacy Liaison to represent their region. Questions about the Advocacy Liaison Program should be directed to Emily Rohlffs, AACAP State Advocacy Manager at 202-587-9668, erohlffs@aacap.org.

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