



About ANCOR Disability Champions PAC

Origins and Goals

ANCOR Disability Champions Political Action Committee (ANCOR DC PAC) began operating in 2017, at the same time that Congress actively sought to enact proposals to drastically change the nature of Medicaid. Those proposals made it clear that IDD providers need to be a stronger presence in federal policy discussions. ANCOR DC PAC is one of the many tools ANCOR has developed in order to avoid similar harmful proposals from being made in the future

ANCOR DC PAC is designed to pool personal donations from ANCOR members on a voluntary basis, and redistribute those funds to Congressional candidates who are supportive of IDD issues. In doing so, ANCOR hopes to:

- Recognize and support established allies and emerging Congressional champions from both national parties.
- Build stronger relationships with Members of Congress, increasing providers' ability to "sit at the table" with key policymakers when important legislation arises.
- Further develop ANCOR members' experience in and skill at navigating the policy process.

Selecting Congressional Recipients

ANCOR DC PAC receives guidance from a PAC Advisory Committee on which Congressional candidates to support. Appointed by ANCOR Board President Angela King, the Committee is comprised of ANCOR members. There are 3 Co-Chairs and 8 Committee Members on the Committee. All serve for one-year terms, with the possibility of a second term.

Recognizing the Importance of Relationship Building

Advocacy fundamentally centers on building trusting relationships between constituents and elected officials. Advocates can foster relationships with officials in many ways, ranging from providing quality, reliable information in meetings to volunteering on campaigns because they believe a candidate will do the right thing. Contributions from ANCOR DC PAC are another way for ANCOR to further relationships with elected officials on behalf of providers.

By investing in elections, providers signal to officials to continue the good work they have been doing. It is an act of good faith that does not serve to create new relationships on a monetary basis, but rather to increase momentum obtained by other advocacy efforts such as Hill Days, action alerts or repeat meetings. Because it is harder to ask for funds than it is to ask people to send a pre-written email, an organization that has a PAC and can successfully fundraise shows that it has a mobilized base to whom elected officials should pay attention.

The goal of ANCOR DC PAC is to strengthen your voice in Congress.

To learn more, please contact Doris Parfaite-Claude, Federal Advocacy and Research Manager, at dparfaite-claude@ancor.org.