

KANSAS MENTAL HEALTH COALITION

.....Speaking with one voice to meet the critical needs of people with mental illness

Grassroots Advocacy Network: Kansas Voices for Mental Health

VOLUNTEER LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT ADVOCATE POSITION DESCRIPTION

Responsibilities of volunteers who agree to serve as a Legislative District Advocate for the Kansas Mental Health Coalition include the following:

1. Establishing a relationship with my Kansas Representative and Kansas Senator and maintaining communications with them throughout the year;
2. Receiving action alerts on key legislative issues affecting the mental health community and communicating with my Kansas House and Senate members when called on by e-mail and telephone;
3. Organizing and participating in local meetings with elected officials to address mental health issues;
4. Receiving and reviewing background information on mental health policy issues via e-mail communications;
5. Communicating with my U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators when called on regarding key issues pending in the U.S. Congress;
6. Participating in Mental Health Advocacy Day at the Capitol;
7. Providing reports to the Coalition from legislative contacts;
8. Volunteering to provide testimony to legislative committees in Topeka as time and resources permit;
9. Identifying and updating when needed my County Commissioners' contact information for action on local mental health funding issues;
10. Recruiting other individuals in my district to advocate for selected mental health policy issues as time and resources permit;
11. Providing input to the Coalition on mental health policy issues which need attention and on how to improve the effectiveness of the Grassroots Advocacy Network;
12. Keeping the Coalition updated on changes in my contact information, particularly my e-mail address for communications and my home address as it may affect my assigned legislative districts;
13. Participating in meetings of the Coalition if available and as resources permit;
14. Immediately advising the Coalition when I can no longer perform these duties.

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