

**Meeting Schedule
October 2024 - August 2025**

The Advocacy Network will meet monthly on Zoom. At these meetings, advocates will learn valuable skills and knowledge about policy and advocacy, share their thoughts and advocacy ideas with one another for peer support, hear presentations from guest speakers, and develop their own independent advocacy projects, aligned with Strategies for Children's (SFC) statewide advocacy strategy.

*All meetings are 6:00-7:30pm, second Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise noted.
Exact schedule and topics subject to change.*

- October 8, 6:00-8:00pm: Introductions, goals, schedule. Overview of current policy and advocacy opportunities. Equity and representation. Finding your “why?”
- November 12: Advocacy 101 (part 1). Begin planning advocacy projects.
- December 10: Advocacy 101 (part 2). Guest Speaker – Advocacy Network alumni. Finalize advocacy projects.
- January 14: Communications workshop. Public speaking and crafting your “elevator pitch,” w/ SFC’s director of communications, Diagneris “Nery” Garcia.
- February 11: Advocate share-outs part 1, share updates and hear feedback on your advocacy project.
- March 11: State budget advocacy. Guest Speaker – elected official or administration staff.
- April 8: Advocate share-outs part 2, share updates and hear feedback on your advocacy project.
- May 13: State policy updates. Guest Speaker – elected official administration staff.
- June 10: Advocate share-outs part 3.
- July 8: Advocacy Real Talk, with SFC’s executive director, Amy O’Leary.
- August 12: Reception for Reflection, with guest attendees.

In addition to monthly meetings, SFC staff will hold **“one-on-one” meetings** with each advocate to review their progress and provide support. These will happen three times (fall, winter, spring) with additional check-ins available upon request. **We are here to support you in your advocacy journey!**

All advocates are required to be featured in our [Eye on Early Childhood blog](#), share a professional-looking photo of themselves that SFC will use for promotional purposes, and present on [The 9:30 Call](#).

Additional opportunities available throughout the year:

- Professional development (trainings, meetings, and events),
- Public speaking (serving on panels, testifying at public meetings, media appearances),
- Writing (blogs, articles, letters-to-the-editor, testimony),
- Leadership (serving on boards and advisories).

Advocates will use Google docs to record their progress and receive feedback.

SFC will provide technology training and support!

For more information please contact our program assistant Jayleese Le Blanc at jleblanc@strategiesforchildren.org.