

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TEAMS

WHAT TO DO DURING THE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM

EDUCATE

Attend one of Texas CASA's Post-Session trainings or watch the Legislative Session Wrap-Up Webinar. Educate yourself on what occurred during session and how that will impact your local program. Whether the changes made during the legislative session were small or large, it is important to take the time to educate yourself to make sure that you are aware of newly enacted legislation that may impact your staff and your volunteers.

NAVIGATE

Work to implement new legislation within your program. Train your staff and volunteers on any new requirements that will impact them. It may take time to adjust to new laws and ensuring that staff and volunteers are trained is the best way to swiftly navigate through change and guarantee compliance.

THINK

After you have adjusted to the changes that follow each legislative session, start to think about what additional changes would benefit your program or the children and families you serve. Texas CASA begins to work on its policy priorities during the Spring before each legislative session, so it is important to brainstorm what could be impactful to your program and community so your program can participate in Texas CASA's planning process ahead of the next session.

CULTIVATE

It is essential to continue to develop and cultivate relationships with your legislators and their staff during the interim. Think about opportunities to involve your legislators in the work that your program already does in your community, like inviting them to a swearing-in ceremony or annual gala. Making your legislator feel directly involved in your work on behalf of children and families can create a positive long-term benefit for your program and the CASA network.

ENGAGE

As you are cultivating relationships, educating yourself & your program, and thinking about new priorities, it is essential to engage your LAT volunteers. Continuing to hold LAT meetings during the interim helps boost and maintain your team's enthusiasm for advocacy. Additionally, your LAT members could have ideas for furthering legislative relationships or potential policy priorities for the next legislative session.

REACH OUT

Reach out to the Texas CASA Public Policy Team! We are here to help you and your program before, during, and after each legislative session. Whether you want to talk about a new law that was passed or a potential policy priority, Texas CASA is here to help and answer any questions. Please contact the Public Policy Team at publicpolicy@texascasa.org for guidance!



STRENGTHENING THE VOICES OF CASA STATEWIDE

