advocacy coordinator description

# Background

Community Health Centers continue to face serious challenges at the state and federal levels of government, including Health Center Program funding and Medicaid cuts. The health center community cannot afford to be silent or complacent in a time of such fierce threat; these new and ongoing challenges demand our continuous effort and attention. In an effort to make our voice heard, our successes understood, and ensure that we can continue to care for America’s neediest communities, an organized national grassroots advocacy campaign and network is essential. Designating a Health Center Advocacy Coordinator at EVERY health center is a primary step toward organized advocacy and protection for health centers and health center patients.

# Role and Description

The Health Center Advocacy Coordinator is the primary advocacy contact person for each health center. As Coordinator, you will be responsible for building the health center’s advocacy power by increasing the number of people organized and willing to weigh-in on the issues.

This role can be filled by anyone at the health center, as long as the Coordinator is engaged and willing to activate others.

The Coordinator is responsible for following state and federal level health center advocacy updates so that you are able to stay informed of the issues, as well as inform others who may be interested. Coordinators are also responsible to alert others, including staff, board members and community partners, when a state or federal Action Alert is taking place.

The primary goal of the Coordinator is to recruit others at the health center to be involved, call these people to action, and follow up to make sure that people are in fact engaging in advocacy efforts. The main purpose for having an Advocacy Coordinator is to have one identifiable person at each health center that will make sure that the center has enough organized advocates to engage in issues at critical times.

# Responsibilities:

* Inform and recruit individuals for grassroots advocacy efforts and events.
* Make sure staff and board members are aware of and act on health center Action Alerts.
* Report advocacy campaign activities, including meetings with elected officials and press activities, to NACHC and your state Primary Care Association.
* Help organize and support a Board Advocacy Committee at your health center.