

## **2020-21 Policy Partners Application**

Policy Partners is Community Crossroads' exclusive advocacy training program. Have you ever wanted to participate in the legislative process and help sway opinions and votes on Bills that will affect you and your family? Have you ever wanted to tell your Representatives how pending legislation will affect your family for better or worse and elicit their support? Is the New Hampshire legislative process a mystery to you? Then Policy Partners is your type of training. Using a combination several targeted trainings and one-on-one mentoring from a trained advocate, you can gain the skills needed to successfully participate in the legislative process and help craft a better future for people with disabilities.

### **Contact Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you? \_\_\_\_\_

### **What participants can expect to learn:**

- How the legislative process works in New Hampshire, including the budget process, state elections, how a bill becomes a law.
- How to review and choose which Bills to work on.
- How to conduct 1 to 1 interviews with legislators and candidates and how to build lasting relationships and alliances with them.
- How to provide public testimony, both written and oral.
- Where legislative hearings take place and how to participate in them.
- How to respond to Calls-to-Action.
- How to successfully advocate for the full and equal rights of citizens who have disabilities in New Hampshire

### **What Policy Partners expects from you:**

- Attend and be prepared for all scheduled training sessions and meetings.
- Initiate and maintain monthly contact/interaction with your Mentor.
- Follow the Guide Scope & Sequence and complete the guide section activities in the time allotted.
- Attend at least one legislative hearing during the session and provide written or oral testimony.
- Conduct at least two 1 to 1 interview sessions with your fellow mentees and at least 1 with your representative(s) or candidate(s) (after training).

**Application Questions:**

1. Policy Partners is an opportunity to learn skills that will serve you and your family for a lifetime, giving you the tools needed to be an active participant in public policy. But, the time commitment and focus required is significant. What is motivating you to apply at this time?
  
2. What life stage are you or your family member in at this time (pre-school, the school years, transitioning into adult, fully adult years)?
  
3. What skills in the area of advocacy do you believe you already have? What do you hope to learn?
  
4. Have you ever done or participated in any of the following (please elaborate on each experience)?
  - a. Written a Letter to the Editor about an issue important to you?
  - b. Attended a legislative hearing; submitted testimony to a hearing?
  - c. Called, emailed, written or met with one of your representatives?
  - d. Attended a rally, protest or other type of action?
  
5. Up to this point, have there been barriers to your participation in the legislative process? What is different now?
  
6. Tell us some of your strengths as well as what you hope to achieve through this program. How will you define success?
  
7. Tell us something interesting about yourself or anything else you think we should know about you.

**Special Accommodations:**

In order to fully participate in Policy Partners, please indicate if you would need any of the following:

- \_\_\_\_ Transportation
- \_\_\_\_ An allowance for gasoline
- \_\_\_\_ Respite funds to attend sessions
- \_\_\_\_ Other

## Policy Partners 2020-21 Session Calendar

Month	Training Session/Meeting Purpose	Date	Duration
<b>October-March</b>	Mentor Meetings/Contact	You determine	30-60 minutes 1 to 2 times per month
<b>September</b>	Orientation & Kick Off Session	September Date TBD 6-9PM	3 hours
<b>October</b>	Training Session 1 Self-interest, Public vs. Private, & Power	October Date TBD 6-9PM	3 hours
<b>November</b>	Training Session 2 Relationships & Propositions	November Date TBD 6-9PM	3 hours
<b>January</b>	Training Session 3 Communication & Decision Making	January Date TBD 6-9PM	3 hours
<b>February</b>	Training Session 4 Issue Framing	February Date TBD 6-9PM	3 hours
<b>March</b>	Policy Partners Graduation SMART Goals	March Date TBD 6-8PM	2 hours

All Sessions take place at Community Crossroads located at:  
8 Commerce Ave. in Atkinson, NH 03811

**Please return your completed application by Friday, July 24, 2020 to:**

Community Crossroads  
8 Commerce Drive  
Atkinson, NH 03811

*Attention: Jennifer Bertrand*

OR email application to [jbertrand@communitycrossroadsnh.org](mailto:jbertrand@communitycrossroadsnh.org) or [legisliaison@gmail.com](mailto:legisliaison@gmail.com).

*For questions and additional information call Jennifer Bertrand at (603) 893-1299 X358.*