A United Voice for Doctors, Our Patients, & the Communities We Serve
Committee
On
Political
Education

-What does COPE do?
Why COPE? (purpose)

- Our healthcare system is significantly shaped by elections, legislative decisions and governmental actions. By contributing to the Doctors Council SEIU COPE, I can strengthen our voice by helping elect leaders who will stand up for the things that matter to us and our patients. I want a voice in the policy and political arenas through the Doctors Council SEIU COPE. If we work together, we can elect leaders who are on our side and hold them accountable.
How do we engage in political and community advocacy?
Some Examples of Doctors Council SEIU Political and Community Involvement

1.) Meetings with State/Local Legislators

2.) Political Endorsement Process
   a) New York State
   b) New York City
      51 City Council, 5 Borough Presidents, Comptroller, Public Advocate, Mayor

3.) Involvement with Community Advocacy Groups and Coalitions
Meeting with Elected Officials
Some Issues Advocated on
Doctors Council SEIU Political and Community Involvement

1.) Contract Action Campaign
   a) Meet with elected officials NYS and NYC
   b) Meet with community groups
   c) Rally

2.) Avoid Layoffs

3.) OPMC and our licenses

4.) Protect Funding to where we work – Jobs, Services
    -Budget Cuts, Medicaid, 340B, ICP, etc.

5.) Help our Patients/ those we care for and Communities
    -Excluded Workers Fund; determinants of care
    -Vaccination Education
Woodhull Hospital Rally
And Role of Community and Elected Officials
Saving Labor & Delivery at North Central Bronx Hospital
What are some ways to advocate as a COPE member?

- Meet with elected officials
- Advocacy Day
- Email Advocacy
- Phone Calls
- Open Letters; Letters to Editor; Op-Eds, etc.
- Meeting with/Presenting to Community Groups
- Testifying
- Rallies/Actions
- Position Statements
- Endorsements
Community Health Advocacy Day

Dear City Council:

Restore the funding.
Help save & protect our safety net health programs.

Sincerely,
The kids, youth, parents, people with disabilities, communities, workers & voters of NYC.

May 20th, 2009
250 Broadway

Oral Health Dental Clinics
Child Health Clinics
Infant Mortality Initiative
Primary Care Initiative
School Health Services
HIV/AIDS Prevention Services
Child Mental Health Services
St. Elizabeths Pouch Center
IHHC MR/DD Services
Growing and Evolving COPE

• Establish a core group of active and engaged members who will regularly meet to discuss, plan, and execute political action.

• Train members to act as political representatives who will work on behalf of the rest of the Doctors Council membership.
Next Steps

• In May: Attend NYC Council meetings

• Talk to 3 doctors you work with

• Bring to Next COPE Meeting

• Set up leader at each facility

• Identify issues
A United Voice for Doctors, Our Patients, & the Communities We Serve
PRESENTATION FOR:

Doctors Council
Effective Advocacy
Demystifying Engagement & Influencing Elected Officials
Saima Anjam
Vice President,
The Parkside Group
Politics 101

- Federal Government
- Statewide Government
- Local Government
Federal Government

LEGISLATIVE
House of Representatives
Senate

EXECUTIVE
President
Executive Agencies

JUDICIAL
US Supreme Court
Federal Courts
State Government

LEGISLATIVE
Assembly
Senate

EXECUTIVE
Governor
Agencies

JUDICIAL
Local Government

LEGISLATIVE
City Council

EXECUTIVE
Mayor

JUDICIAL
Village, Town, City & County Courts
NYC Council
How a Bill Becomes a Law
Idea to Law

An idea becomes a bill
- Introduced in the legislature

Legislative Process
- Build support - cosponsors, community groups
- Consideration in committee
- Passage by both houses

Consideration by Executive
- Executive has a defined period to consider passed legislation - can sign into law or veto
How A Bill Really Becomes A Law

Idea → Law
Advocacy
Making a plan

Setting goals & creating a message
Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Doctor Council, Who We Are
3. Our COVID-19 response
4. Our “Ask”
5. Thank you!
“Courage is contagious.”

- Attorney General Keith Ellison
Questions?