

2023-24 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/or your family?*
- *Have you ever wanted to tell your lawmakers 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. **Space in this sought-after program is limited so interested participants should apply early!**

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Evening Phone: _____

What is the best way to contact you? _____

What participants will learn in Policy Partners:

- How the legislative process works in New Hampshire, including the budget process, state elections, and how a bill becomes 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 be more persuasive and to frame issues you care about.
- 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 interviews 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 however, 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

Please return your completed application by August 11, 2023 to:

Community Crossroads
8 Commerce Drive, Unit 801
Atkinson, NH 03811
Attention: Public Policy Liaison
OR email application to: cmahar@communitycrossroadsnh.org
For questions and additional information call (603) 893-1299.