



Rural
Community
Assistance
Partnership

How Can You Advocate for Your Entrepreneurial Ecosystem?

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Rural Community Assistance Partnership



RCAP National Office



COMMUNITIES
Unlimited



Objectives and Goals

Learn how to set policy priorities

Learn how to build relationships with your members of congress

How to Set Policy Priorities

What challenges does your ecosystem face?

Which ways can government funding help overcome these challenges?

It's okay to be "unoriginal"... pull inspiration from your peers

Where?



Local visits of projects near or after completion

Any space or business you would like to highlight

Their state or district office

Their DC office or virtually...

When?



Early and often...

Immediately after elections

During recess periods

During development of new ideas and initiatives

Your events

Why?



To push forth your mission and help your stakeholders

Congressional offices can help by:

- Introducing or cosponsoring key legislation
 - Sponsor or sign a "Dear Colleague" letter
 - Vote on a Bill or Amendment (We can't ask them to do this)
 - Send letters to federal agencies
 - Provide support letters for federal grant applications
 - Talking to committee and congressional leaders
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How?



Call the office and ask for a contact for your issue area, if you already have a contact you can use their email

Recognize and thank offices for key accomplishments

Involve key contacts

Staying in regular contact

How?



Be Respectful

Be Prepared and Educational

Avoid asking for votes, discussing partisan divides, elections, & donations

Leave time for questions

Thank them and provide follow-up

Thank You!

See our additional training guide here:

<https://www.rcap.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Rural-Entrepreneurial-Federal-Policy-Playbook-3.pdf>

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