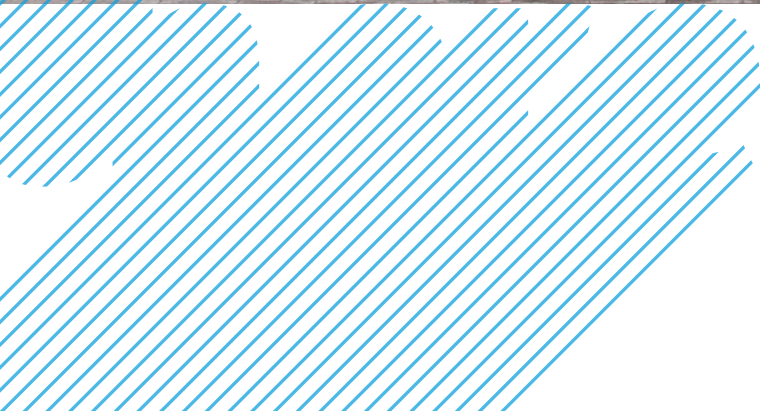




GLOBAL HEALTH ADVOCACY GUIDE

PHOTO: JAMES KEGLEY



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Why global health advocacy?

Advocacy is the act or process of supporting a cause. It is public support for or recommendation of a particular issue or policy. Citizens have the power to voice their support of, or opposition to, issues that are important to them by communicating their beliefs to elected officials.

Advocacy serves as the political arm of global health efforts worldwide. While researchers focus on solutions to health challenges and physicians and health workers provide care to those in need, global health advocates help ensure funding is available for these projects as well as design and promote policies that protect health as a human right.

When there are so many different issues in the world to advocate for, why global health?

Global health advocacy bolsters the idea that all human lives are equal and that healthcare is not a commodity, but a human right. Thus, recognizing the gaps in global health equity, we must work towards and advocate for the idea of health as a human right to ensure it becomes a reality.

How you can advocate for global health issues

Find an issue related to global health

1. Read about global health issues and pick one or two you feel most passionate about. Make yourself well-informed on those issues by doing more focused reading and watching documentaries.
 - » Examples: tropical diseases, river blindness, HIV/AIDS, lack of maternal and child health care access, food security, health impacts of climate change. See this [Intro to Global Health](#)
2. Find a group of people who share your interest in this issue and are passionate about improving policy related to that topic.
 - » Has this topic of interest personally affected you?
3. Personal narrative practice. Be willing to interview others.
 - » If the issue it has not affected you personally, go out into the community. Find people in your community who have been affected by this issue and talk to them about their experiences and what they would want changed. After all, your advocacy will eventually help them! If this issue is not present in your community, seek out people through social media with whom you may be able to connect with to discuss the issue further.
 - » How many people does this issue affect? This will help you determine if you should go to local, state or federal legislatures. The more people who support your issue, the better.
4. Have you witnessed this issue?
 - » Describe what you've seen. How widespread and systemic is it?

Research your issue

1. Go to reputable sources such as the websites for the [CDC](#), [WHO](#) and/or the [Intergovernmental panel on climate change](#) to find facts and statistics regarding your issue. This will be important in making your talking points and “leave behind.”
 - » As a good measure, you'll want to have 3–4 pages of research that you can edit and cut down to put into your talking points.
2. Again, go out into the community and research these issues firsthand. This will make your advocacy more powerful and worthwhile.
 - » A combination of *logos*, *pathos* and *ethos* will make your case the most worthwhile. This should also be included in your research.
 - *Logos*: facts and logic
 - *Pathos*: personal story and pleas to emotion
 - *Ethos*: ethical standpoints

Locate policy

1. For most issues, some policies or bills will already be in place.
 - » [Congress.gov](#) is a good tool to find federal legislation and where it is in the legislative process.
 - » Visit the [California Legislative Information](#) website for state-specific legislation.
 - » Research and find at least 6–10 pieces of federal legislation that relate to your issue.
2. Decide on one piece of federal or state legislation to advocate for.
 - » Identify one bill that has the most support from legislators but also does the most good for your issue.

- » Make sure that this is a team decision so that everyone's voices and interests are represented.
3. **How does a bill become federal law?**
 - » You will need to understand how a bill moves through Congress, or the California State Senate. Here are some resources to help you learn about this process:
 - [How does a bill move through the California State Senate?](#)
 - [Fun, educational video](#) to help better understand this process
 - » You will also need to understand what times Congress (House of Representatives/Senate) or your State Assembly are in session and bills are going to be reviewed. This may change from year to year, but knowing this will allow you to approach certain legislators for their support a few months before they vote.

Develop your ask

1. Ask for support for a certain bill from a legislative office.
 - » Some issues will not have policy measures that support your interests. Then, approaching legislators becomes a bit more complex in terms of what you are asking the representative to do.
2. You can ask your legislator to sign a dear colleague letter (a letter to other representatives to support your issue) or attend events that support your cause. Or you can outline a policy measure that they can enact or help support.
 - » If you are asking a member of the opposite party about your goals, make sure to change your plea and your reasoning.

[Changes need to happen, and if there is a way for them to make that happen it's usually in the form of the representative sponsoring a bill.](#)

Search for legislators to contact

1. Use govtrack.us to find out who your congressional representative is, representatives nearby, and information on the representatives such as their committees, bills sponsored, voting record, etc. You can find your state representatives [here](#).
 2. Consider these factors when deciding who to contact:
 - » Distance: Can you go to this legislator's office? Are you in their district? Are you their constituent?
 - » Party: If you are asking for more progressive/conservative goals, which party members would be more responsive to your ideas? Think about how can you frame your advocacy as to garner bi-partisan support.
 3. House or Senate: where is your bill right now?
 - » Check congress.gov, type in legislation number, click on the bill, and then click "actions" tab to see where it stands
 - » If it is in the House, please make sure to go to House members.
 - » If your bill is in the Senate, please make sure to reach out to senators in your area. Similar sites are generally available at the State level.
 4. Active: which legislators are in an active position to do something about your request?
 - » If the bill has been introduced and is being considered in a specific committee(s) or subcommittee.
 - Target your members who sit on that committee(s) asking them to cosponsor it and/or vote to move it out of committee.
 - Any member is eligible to cosponsor a bill, whether they are on the committee of jurisdiction. So, you can reach out to your representative to ask them to do so.
- Reminder: only house members can cosponsor house bills, only senators can co-sponsor senate bills.*
- » If it's out of committee and been introduced, you can reach out to your Members to please vote in favor of the bill should it come to the floor.

5. In Congress, bills that deal with global health are most often considered by the full committee and subcommittees below:

- » Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
 - [House](#)
 - [Senate](#)
- » House Foreign Affairs Committee: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organization ([subcommittee information](#))
- » Senate Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on African and Global Health Policy ([subcommittee information](#))

Research legislators

After deciding on legislators to contact, research these legislators and use this information in your legislative meeting.

1. Legislators want to know that you value their time and the efforts of their office.
 - » This information can usually be accessed at their website as well as on a quick Google search.
2. Looking up their work in a variety of fields as well as in a specific field you are advocating for is important.
3. If you are meeting with a representative who may not support global health-related issues, make sure you go in with a mindset that you will not change their mind.
 - » Instead, find common ground. Do more research and see what they might be interested in supporting.

Reach out to legislators

After deciding on a set of legislators to contact, it is important to contact these legislators.

1. You may need to call their office and set up an appointment.
2. You may email the scheduler or make a meeting request on their website.
 - » Remember that you may not get an immediate response.
 - » Be consistent and persistent in your request.
3. If you have any personal connections to these legislators, use them!
4. If you are part of a group, you should have a designated contact person.
 - » This person should act as a point person for your organization so that the office has one person to contact.

Create a “leave behind”

A “leave behind” is a document that lets the legislator and his/her office know the information you during your visit and your specific policy ask.

The Leave Behind should have:

- » Key statistics and facts relating to the issue
- » A list of your supporters, whether they be local, state or nation wide
- » The specific ask that you have requested
- » All of your contact information

Leave behind example

Contact your representatives

Call your representatives

Calling your elected officials is one way to voice your concern as a constituent. Generally, it is the most effective way to ensure direct contact with your elected official and/or office staff. However, emailing may be an easier way to make sure your message does not get lost in the shuffle. Below are some guidelines on how to prepare and request to talk to your elected official and a sample script of what to say during your call.

Preparing for the call

1. If you do not know who your congressional representatives or senators are, visit <https://whoismyrepresentative.com> and use your zip code to locate your elected official's phone number.
2. Use [Govtrack](#) to find out who represents you in Congress and what bills they have sponsored so you can figure out your elected official's position regarding the issue. In doing so, you can either thank them for their support or express concerns to change their position.
3. Make sure to have the necessary resources on hand such as a fact sheet so that you can answer any questions that they may have in regards to your issue.

Sample script

Quick tip: Make sure you know your zip code, they might ask for it to verify that you are a constituent in their area.

When you call your Member of Congress' office, a staff assistant or scheduler will answer the phone. If a scheduler answers they may not be aware of the issue. They will write down your position and let you know where to direct your call.

Hello. My name is [INSERT NAME], and I am calling from [CITY, STATE] and I am a constituent of [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE].

I am calling today about [BILL NAME/BILL NUMBER/ISSUE].

Quick tip: If you don't know whether your senator/representative is in favor or opposes the issue, ask the receptionist who answers the phone if they know your elected official's position on the issue.

Do you know if the senator/representative is in favor or opposition to this issue?

1. If the elected official is IN FAVOR of your position:

I support [ISSUE].

[(optional) Insert why you support it. Find facts about the issue if appropriate.]

...and I'm pleased to hear that [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE] supports this position.

Thank you for your time and work on this issue.

2. If the elected official is NOT IN FAVOR of your position:

Quick tip: Ask the legislative assistant why the senator/representative takes that position.

I oppose [ISSUE] and I strongly encourage the [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE] to oppose any implementation of [ISSUE].

[(optional) Insert why you oppose it. Find facts about the issue if appropriate.]

My vote is on the line.

Thank you for your time.

Calling tips

1. Have courage: Calling your senator/representative is not as intimidating as it seems. In fact, it's actually quite easy. Don't be afraid to call. Make the phone call and let your voice be heard.
2. Be respectful/polite: Take into consideration that the Receptionist is answering phone calls all day. Be respectful even if your elected official opposes your position.

3. Be clear and direct: Get straight to the point.
4. Be sure to make your “ask”: Let them know what action you want your elected official to take.
5. Keep trying.

Email your representatives

Email template to staffers

Hello (Representative/Staff),

My name is (enter name). I am a (enter district/town) resident and advocate for _____. Our mission is to empower the University of California and communities it serves to encourage our representatives to protect and continue US leadership in global health.

We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss _____ and possible ways to partner with _____ to support and advance US leadership in global health. We are available to meet the week of _____ but are flexible. Please let us know if you have any questions, and thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

(name)

(school name)

Tips and reminders

1. In your emails, sound professional and give them a specific set of dates that you are available so that it is easier for them to contact you.
2. Closer dates, within two weeks, works better.
3. Be consistent and persistent in your request.
4. Designate a contact person. This person should speak for your organization so that the office has one person to contact.
5. You will not immediately get a response back from many members.

Meet with congressional representatives

Before meeting

1. Research the representative's constituency.
2. If you are advocating on behalf of the UC system or for UC students, find out how many UC students are from their voting district. The information is available here: <http://www.ucop.edu/federal-governmental-relations/resources/uc-in-your-district-legislative-district-maps.html>.
 - » Use this to your advantage! Their job is to answer to their constituents so you can use this to get their attention.
3. Plan what you will say! Use the suggested outline below as a starting point, and feel free to adapt where you see fit.
4. Do research on your representative.
 - » Understand their history with your campus/ state/organization, with foreign affairs, with foreign aid, with global health, with public health in general.
 - » Use that prior knowledge of the ideals and history of the representative to better understand their value system.
 - » Then, adjust how you will approach these topics and plan which points you will emphasize to them and which points that can be omitted in the interest of time.
5. Designate a group leader to start and end the meeting, and make sure everyone has a point to speak on.
6. If going as a team, designate someone as a timekeeper.
 - » Find out how much time you have with the Congressional representative from the Congressional aide in the office or from the Congressperson.
 - » Make sure the timekeeper keeps the team on message and on schedule by providing 5 minute warning signals and 1 minute warning signals. Agree on these signals beforehand.
7. If not going as a team, try to keep track of time by wearing a watch.
8. Be on time!
9. Turn off/silence your phone!
10. Bring paper and pen to help make notes for yourself but also make notes for the legislator in case they want additional information.
11. Be friendly to the legislative staff members; they may be able to tell you additional information about the legislator's schedule or about their stance on these issues so that you may be better prepared for the meeting or later meetings. They also will be the ones to brief legislators later on, so it's helpful to have them on your side.

Introduction

(Team Leader):

Good morning/afternoon! On behalf of the _____, thank you for meeting with us today.

Everyone: <Introduce yourselves as students of the UC campus you're in>

If you are a constituent, mention so now.

We are here today to ask for your support for _____.

Personal narratives

1. Share your experiences with any of the issues you have talked about.
2. Share who you are and why these issues are important to you.
3. Try to choose specifics about the issues you are working on.

Message

You may pick from these which ones to start with/emphasize. Because your meeting can be very short, it's better to pick one/two points that you think would be the most convincing for your Congressperson, especially if you have personal narratives to be told in relation to them. Choosing which points to start with/focus on would depend on the research you do on your Congressperson's voting record on public health, homeland security, foreign affairs, etc.

Good talking points for global health

1. Preventing epidemics protects the health of Americans.
 - » The success of anti-polio efforts was funded largely by the US. For more on the WHO campaign to eradicate polio, there is an excellent chapter in *Better: A Surgeon's Notes on Performance* by Atul Gawande.
2. Ebola
 - » Ebola virus disease (EVD), formerly known as Ebola haemorrhagic fever, is a severe, often fatal illness in humans.
 - » WHO aims to prevent Ebola outbreaks by maintaining surveillance for Ebola virus disease and supporting at-risk countries to develop preparedness plans. The document provides overall guidance for control of Ebola and Marburg virus outbreaks:
 - » [Ebola and Marburg virus disease epidemics: preparedness, alert, control, and evaluation](#)
 - » <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/>
 - » Community engagement is key to successfully controlling outbreaks. Good outbreak control relies on applying a package of interventions, namely case management, infection prevention and control practices, surveillance and contact tracing, a good laboratory service, safe burials and social mobilization.
3. HIV/AIDS
 - » PEPFAR "President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief": 11 million people with HIV living today because of PEPFAR's efforts, and many more who did not get HIV because of PEPFAR's effort.
 - » PEPFAR is a highly successful HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment program started under President George W. Bush that has saved 11 million lives today that would not be possible without the medical treatment from this program's continued presence in developing countries.
 - » PEPFAR is also responsible for [tuberculosis](#) and [malaria](#) prevention and treatment, as tuberculosis and malaria account for a large percentage of AIDS-related death.
 - » When working with Republican Congressional representatives it might be helpful to name drop George Bush. He's polled pretty well post-presidency amongst Republicans: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/163022/former-president-george-bush-image-ratings-improve.aspx>.
 - » If they are not familiar with the HIV/AIDS epidemic, help them contextualize what these numbers mean.
 - » UNAIDS set a [90-90-90 standard](#) for an AIDS epidemic target: "By 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status. By 2020, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy. By 2020, 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression."
 - » PEPFAR is helping [Malawi](#), [Zambia](#), and [Zimbabwe](#) reach the 90-90-90 standard, and recent evidence has shown steady progress towards this goal.
 - » More resources on HIV/AIDS and PEPFAR: <https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/251737.pdf>

4. Global stability and the security of our country relies on healthy communities
 - » Explain the links between health, including food and water security, and homeland security (a priority issue for Republicans and their constituents).
5. Providing foreign aid strengthens our own US markets.
 - » "Of our top 15 trade partners, 11 are former aid recipients." Providing aid helps us develop lasting relationships with other countries that can benefit us economically.
6. Maintains US leadership in global affairs
 - » Invoke nationalist pride
 - » China is beginning to expand their foreign aid funding and catching up to the US in global leadership in protecting global health and

development. We should be maintaining our leadership in global health in order to maintain our leadership in world affairs in general.

- » <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2016/07/19/chinese-foreign-assistance-explained/>

Closing statement

You, or in a group, the team leader should end the meeting with a closing statement focused on your specific cause and ask. Following up

1. Send a thank you note that contains contact information.
2. For more information, see the "Leave Behind" section (p 3) in "How you can advocate for global health."

How to write an op-ed

One of the best ways to disseminate information, educate and engage both your local and global community is through op-eds. Below is a basic overview and tips on how to write an op-ed.

What is an op-ed?

Op-ed stands for opinion editorial or opposite the editorial page. It is a published article advocating a position or issue the writer views as important. Generally, these are editorial pieces that are a few pages in length (500–800 words), published via several mediums, like university campus papers, city newspapers, websites, Facebook, etc.

Before you get started

1. Brainstorm an issue that you feel strongly about or think is important.
2. Make sure you create an outline to sort out your ideas.
 - » This website is useful in giving instructions on how to write an outline: <https://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/how-to/write-an-outline>.
3. Identify your goals.
4. Check for guidelines.
 - » If you have an idea of where you want to publish your op-ed, be sure to check the publication's website so that it meets their requirements.

Op-ed writing tips

1. Identify a specific problem.
2. Include a “hook.”
 - » This gets a reader's attention.
 - » Ex: “As X day approaches, hard workers are getting laid off while executives are enjoying bonuses.”
3. State your purpose.
 - » Make sure your introductory paragraph clearly states the purpose of your piece
 - » Concisely explain why your issue is important.

4. Acknowledge the counterargument.
 - » In acknowledging the counterargument, it will show your audience that you are aware of other perspectives/approaches to your issue.
5. Defend your statement.
6. Make a call to action.
 - » Typically, this will often take the form of a practical solution.
7. Write more than one draft.
 - » It will help format your op-ed with a more confined focus.
8. Have someone peer review your op-ed (i.e. mentors, friends, relatives, etc.).
9. Find a place where you want to publish it.

Tips to get your op-ed published

1. Make sure your topic is a current event.
2. Focus on your local media and their market.
3. Don't submit your piece to more than one media outlet in the same market.
4. Make sure that your op-ed meets the publication's requirements.
5. Send a cover letter to the editor that reminds him or her who you are and your reasons for submitting the op-ed.

Additional resources

[Organizational development](#)

[AP Style Quick Reference Guide](#)

Sample op-eds

[Bill Frist: Foreign Aid Saves Lives-And Makes America Safer](#)

[Sarah Lawrence: Defunding scheme jeopardizes health of red-state women](#)

How to run a letter writing campaign

1. Have an “ask” that you would like out of the representative.
 - » Support for a bill
 - » Support for funding
 - » Support for a program
2. Write a letter to representatives.
 - » Make your information clear and concise.
 - » Write about who the constituency is that is signing this letter.
 - » Clearly identify the ask of your representative in the opening sentence.
 - » Provide proven and substantiated facts and reasons why they should support your cause.
 - » Include charts and visuals to support your reasoning, if available.
3. Organize your signatures!
 - » You can get handwritten signatures OR you can digitally collect signatures through online forms which are quick, accessible, and preferred in today’s technological world.
 - » Make sure you attach a copy of the letter so signers know what they are signing.
 - » Make sure you include the following information in the form:
 - Name
 - Email
 - Affiliation
 - Student?
 - University staff/faculty?
 - Organization member?
 - Community member?
 - If they are signing on behalf of an organization, include organization name and number of individuals in organization
 - Voting district (make sure to include link to find out: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map>)
 - If they agree or disagree with the statement
 - If they are signing onto the letter
4. Advertise and outreach to get signatures.
 - » Social Media
 - » Flyers with QRL/link
 - » Tabling in large/populated areas
 - » Word of mouth
 - » Emailing individuals and organizations
 - » Phone calls
5. Organize packets to print and email to representatives.
 - » Cover should have the letter in it’s entirety.
 - » Signatures should be organized by district.
 - » Bold and move the signatures of those from the particular district you are sending to at the top.
6. Distribute Letter to as many representatives as possible!

How to get involved in global health efforts

To summarize the information in this policy guide and to give you a few more ideas, here is a list of ways you can get involved in global health efforts:

1. Use social media.
 - » Post articles from LEGITIMATE sources on global health needs, activities, success stories.
 - » Tag elected officials.
2. Write an op-ed or Letter to the Editor for your local paper.
 - » See our tips in the “How to write an op-ed” section.
3. Contact your elected official directly by phone or email.
4. Set up a meeting with your elected official.
 - » Don't know who your elected official is? [Find them here!](#)
5. Donate monthly to a global health organization.
 - » Examples: [Doctors Without Borders](#), [UNICEF](#), [OxFam](#), or another.
 - » Even a small amount helps, especially when donated on a recurring basis.
 - » Check [Charitynavigator.com](#) to make sure your organization is using your funds effectively.
 - » Encourage your friends, family to do the same!
6. Stay informed through newsletters from [UCGHI](#), the [Center for World Health at UCLA](#), [Bay Area Global Health Newsletter](#) and other global health organizations such as the [CDC](#), [WHO](#), [Gates Foundation](#), [Research!America](#), and many others to find out what is happening and how you can continue to be helpful to the cause.

FAQ in global health

Q: Why does global health matter?

A: “If you think research is expensive, try disease.” - Mary Lasker (founder of Research!America). Health is a human right and essential to life. Global health funding is a matter of life and death for affected individuals. As one of the world’s wealthiest nations, we have a moral imperative to invest in the livelihoods of others by funding global health.

Q: How much does the US currently spend on Global Health? Why should we spend money on global health?

A: [The US spends less than 1% on global health.](#) Funding global health generates jobs, opportunities, and revenue for Americans. See how global health is an investment for Californians on this fact sheet from Research America.

Diseases are not constrained by country borders, and infectious diseases can cross borders as we have seen with Zika, Ebola, and HIV. Global health investments can help prevent the outbreak and spread of infectious disease.

By not investing in global health, we may be setting ourselves up for more expensive emergencies in the future. “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” applies to global health spending.

Q: How do I talk to legislative members? What if they are already supportive of my cause? What if they are unsupportive?

A: Introduce yourself, including your role in your local community and the global health community. Engage them by telling your personal story and why global health matters to you. Use Mary Wooley’s “Aspirational Communications: “Three sentences to describe Then (past conditions), Now (current conditions/progress made), and Imagine (where we can take that progress further).” Then ask for a specific request, such as supporting or co-signing a specific law.

If they are unsupportive: Don’t be discouraged if they say no. Be respectful and thank them for their time.

Q: We were hoping to focus on 2-3 key global health issues in our advocacy efforts, and highlight those. Are there a few issues that are “hot topics” (either health issues or organizations that are getting their funding cut) that we might not know about that would be good to focus on?

A: Global health security. Health as a human right. Global nutrition. Maternal/newborn/child health. Infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria. The [UN Sustainable Development Goals for Good Health and Well-being](#) are a great resource.

Q: How would you talk to a conservative, pro-life legislator or member of the community about family planning?

A: Start with talking about maternal/newborn health, pregnancy, and family planning. Rather than talking about abortion specifically, talk about how family planning helps the mother and the family have greater agency and financial stability. Can also discuss education for birth spacing, because birth spacing is leads to healthier moms and decreased child mortality. Most importantly, discuss that family planning funding is also used for preventative screenings, STI screenings and treatment, and primary care for women of lower income.

Q: Are there any more assertive/aggressive ways to lobby, beyond letter-writing and writing op-eds?

A: Use social media and reach out to friends and family. Specifically those you know who value the issues you are advocating for already. Numbers matter! Focus on how much you can engage your community, and use those strategies. The more support you can get, the better. Organizing is key!

Q: Is it appropriate to ask the Congressperson her/his stance on global health funding? Is it a priority? If so, what is the best way to approach that topic?

A: Yes! Do some research in advance of the meeting on the representative's record on global development and health issues and thank her/him for the work s/he has already done. Then encourage the representative to do more. Explain why global health matters to you and how s/he can help. Link global health issues to local concerns. Congressional representatives should represent the interests of their constituents (you!).

Q: Are there any taboo topics or etiquette issues we should be aware of...Like things not to ask?

A: Be respectful, thank the representative for their time, and be specific about how they can help. Focus on your issues and why they are important rather than debating which organization or cause is more important or discussing sensitive social issues such as abortion rights.

Q: How can we make our policy ask remain neutral? I'm concerned about new taxes, taking money from other sources, increasing the deficit.

A: By maintaining rather than increasing the less than 1% of the US budget spent on global health, taxes will not be increased, money will not be taken from other sources, and the deficit will not increase. Eliminating this 1% we will not be reduce the deficit significantly, which requires major changes.

This guide was created by the 2017 cohort of UCGHI Student Advocates. It is intended to be a resource for students and community members looking to take action on issues they care about.

The **UCGHI Advocacy Initiative (UCGHI AI)** trains UC students and faculty in political advocacy for federal funding for global health issues.

Student advocates from across the UC system lead advocacy efforts on their respective campuses by collaborating with faculty, campus global health groups, and each other to build system-wide momentum in support of global health. Current and proposed cuts to the global health budget threaten the health of communities both globally and locally. UCGHI AI helps ensure student, faculty and community voices are heard throughout California and in Washington, D.C. by coordinating campus events and outreach to members of Congress and other elected officials.

UCGHI AI is partnered with **Kyle House Group (KHG)**, a D.C.-based international advocacy and government relations consulting firm, to implement an advocacy strategy tailored to UCGHI's focus areas – **Women's Health, Gender and Empowerment** and **Planetary Health** – with a goal of harnessing the power of the 10-campus system in a shared advocacy effort.