

## VIRTUAL ADVOCACY VISIT CHECKLIST FOR PARTICIPANTS

### BEFORE CSMG

- ☐ [Register](#) for the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering to be held February 6-9, 2021 and encourage others to register!
- ☐ Prepare for your virtual advocacy visits during CSMG (February 9). Your CSMG state captain will request virtual meetings with your DC-based senators on behalf of your state delegation for February 9.
  - Your meeting will most likely take place over zoom. Please make sure you have access to a zoom account and know how to participate in a meeting. The [Beginners Guide to Using Zoom](#) can instruct you how to set up a free account and join a meeting.
  - Review CSMG advocacy resources. These materials will [be updated as available here](#).
  - Participate in the Legislative Issues Webinar to learn about policies we'll be advocating.  
Register: Monday, [January 25 at 2:30 PM ET](#); [recording will be made available](#)
  - Participate in the Advocacy Training Webinar to learn tips and tricks for virtual advocacy.  
Register: Thursday, January 28 in [English \(2:00 PM ET\)](#) & [Spanish \(8:00 PM ET\)](#); [recordings will be made available](#)
  - Review "Hill Asks" (legislative priorities) resources. These materials will be shared by your state captain and will be available on the CSMG virtual platform by early February.
  - Research your members of Congress. Where do they stand on the issues you will be meeting about, such as support for domestic and international poverty focused programs and immigrants and refugees?
  - Watch a policy workshop to learn more about a specific issue.
  - Think of a story that helps demonstrate why the legislative issues matter to you and your community (e.g. your work at your parish food pantry has shown you how many people need food assistance).

### DURING CSMG

- ☐ Participate in the Legislative Issues Briefing: Monday, February 8, 3:30-4:30 PM ET.
- ☐ Participate in Q&A about the policy workshop you watched before CSMG: Monday, February 8, 4:45-5:15 PM ET.
- ☐ Participate in your State Delegation Meeting: Monday, February 8, 5:30-6:00 PM ET.
  - During this meeting you'll meet other CSMG participants from your state to prepare for your virtual Senate meetings. Roles and order of speaking presentations will be decided.
  - Confirm with your state captain the time and meeting information for your February 9 Senate meetings.
- ☐ If you are one of the speakers for the Senate meeting, review your part and the order of presentation so you're familiar with and comfortable with the content. This will help the zoom meeting go smoothly.

### DURING ADVOCACY DAY ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

- ☐ Call your representative in the House to show your support for the same issues raised in virtual Senate meetings.
  - Tell the congressional staffer you are a constituent.
  - You will be provided with a script to guide you. Use the script to state the legislative "asks" and call for the representative's support. Personalize the script with information on why these issues are important to you and the work that Catholics are doing in your community, in the nation, and around the world.
- ☐ Participate in zoom meetings with your Senators. Even if you are not a speaker, having the senator and staffer see the many people on the call shows how important the issue is to the Catholic constituents in your state.
- ☐ If you have questions about CSMG Advocacy, staff are available to answer them in this [zoom meeting](#) on February 9 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM ET. Meeting ID: 913 8348 9680 Passcode: 539795

### AFTER HILL VISITS

- ☐ Your state delegation will choose someone from your group to send a thank you email to each Senate office.
- ☐ Your state delegation will choose someone to fill out the [Hill Visit Report](#) form for each Senate meeting.
- ☐ After your meetings, visit the CSMG virtual platform to post a message about your experience, whether challenging or hopeful. Participants can read one another's messages and celebrate our advocacy efforts.