

Workgroup on Advocacy
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Main Themes:

- **Launch a Mailman Center Advocacy Program at multiple levels.**
 - **Develop a plan for advocacy training that equips Mailman Center community members, partners, families, and self-advocates with skills and information to impact local, state, and national levels.**
 - **Leverage UM and expand our capacity to engage media.**
1. Launch a Mailman advocacy program that does both individual and policy advocacy.
 2. Build on our Emerging Transformational Leadership Program and other existing advocacy efforts, bringing focus and coordination.
 3. Recognize de facto leadership role of Mailman at the state and local levels in disability policy.
 - a. Improve communication about existing leadership activities
 - b. Bring greater unity and impact to existing disability coalitions at the state and local levels
 4. Mailman needs a strategic plan for advocacy at the local, state, and federal level.
 - a. Essential role of the community, individuals/families, state and local partners, and champions in the legislature and executive branch.
 - b. Plan needs to be integrated with policy advocacy activities of the university as a whole and communicated to university community.
 5. Develop mechanisms to bring interdisciplinary expertise of Mailman faculty and partners/coalition (local and state) to a way that impacts local, state, federal policy issues
 6. Develop and implement a real time communication vehicle that will result in broadly shared ownership and expertise related to policy and advocacy at Mailman
 7. Every member of the Mailman Community at all levels of the community needs to embrace advocacy as part of their professional identity.
 - a. Develop and implement a plan for advocacy training that equips Mailman community members and coalition partners, patients, and families with skills and information to have an impact at the local, state, and federal levels.
 - b. Pay attention to succession planning and empowering the whole community to play a role.
 - c. This training should be a core value and skill for every discipline within Mailman community.
 8. Mailman needs to own its leadership role in implementing ACA and ACO's in a manner that works well for patients and families that sustain our organization.

9. Leverage U and improve Rick Melnyck
 - a. Explore partnerships with law school, population health sciences, political science, and public policy faculty and students.
 - b. Explore partnerships like ready nation with business community around our disability agenda
 - c. Educate and engage the medical center and university community regarding advocacy and program activities.
 - d. Establish collaborations and partnerships to conduct non-partisan voter registration, voter education, “get out and vote” activities.
 - e. Expand intergenerational partnerships to support our programs and policy agenda.
 - f. Work with coalition partners to engage federal and state/local candidates for public office around our disability agenda.

10. Expand our capacity to engage media at local, state, and national levels.
 - a. Seek out opportunities to regularly meet elected/appointed officials and their staff at all levels of government.
 - b. Create simple talking points in support of our policy agenda and incorporate our stories (share our stories)