

OCPIM Quarterly Meeting Advocacy Presentation

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FULL TERM
FIRST BIRTHDAY
GREATER AKRON



Our Mission

To advocate for policies, educate our community and inform citizens of programs that promote healthy full-term pregnancies and to ensure that every child celebrates a first birthday.



What is Advocacy?

Advocacy is an activity by an individual or group that aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social systems and institutions.
(Wikipedia)

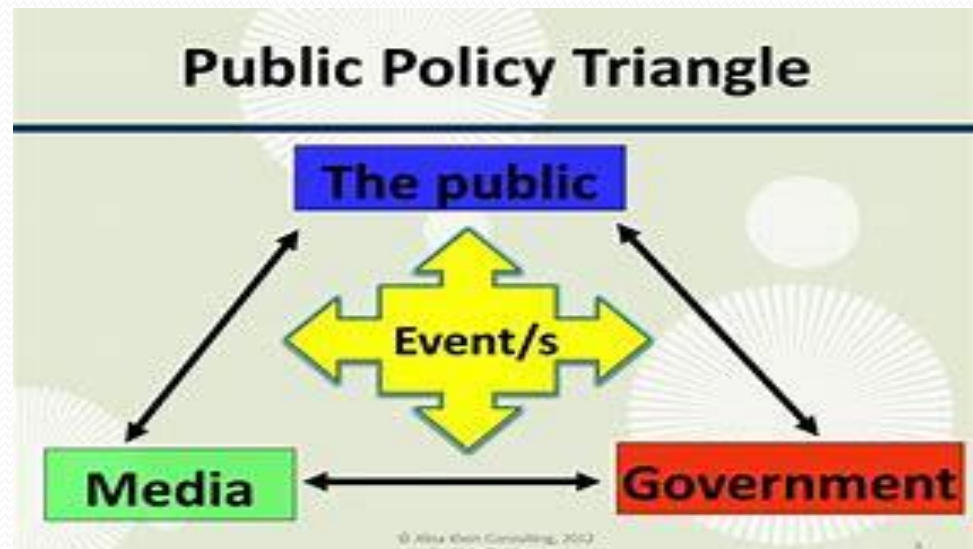
Why Advocate?

"Unless someone like you cares
a whole awful lot, Nothing is
going to get better. It's not."
- Dr. Seuss, The Lorax



Advocacy for Maternal and Child Health

- Self-Advocacy
- Local Advocacy
- State Advocacy



Self- Advocacy

Self-Advocacy:
Know Yourself,
Know What You
Need, Know How
to Get It



What do Pregnant Women Need?

- A support system
- Self-care
- Mental Health support
- Access to medical care
- Doctors who listen
- Housing
- Transportation
- Employment



Knowing how to get what you need?



We need to empower our moms to advocate for themselves



Local Advocacy

- Mayor's Office
- City Council
- County Council
- Courts
- Public Housing
- Social Service agencies
- Local Foundations

We must make the economic case to reduce premature birth and infant mortality.



State Advocacy

- H.B. 11 (Rep. Manning (R-55) Rep. Howse (D-11)
Regards tobacco cessation and prenatal initiatives (passed by the House)
- H.B. 40 (Rep. West (D-49) Rep. Galonski (D- 35)
Regards testing pregnant women for sex transmitted diseases (Introduced)
- H.B. 165 (Rep. Liston (D-21) and Rep. Galonski (D-35)
Regards adoption of health education standards (Introduced)

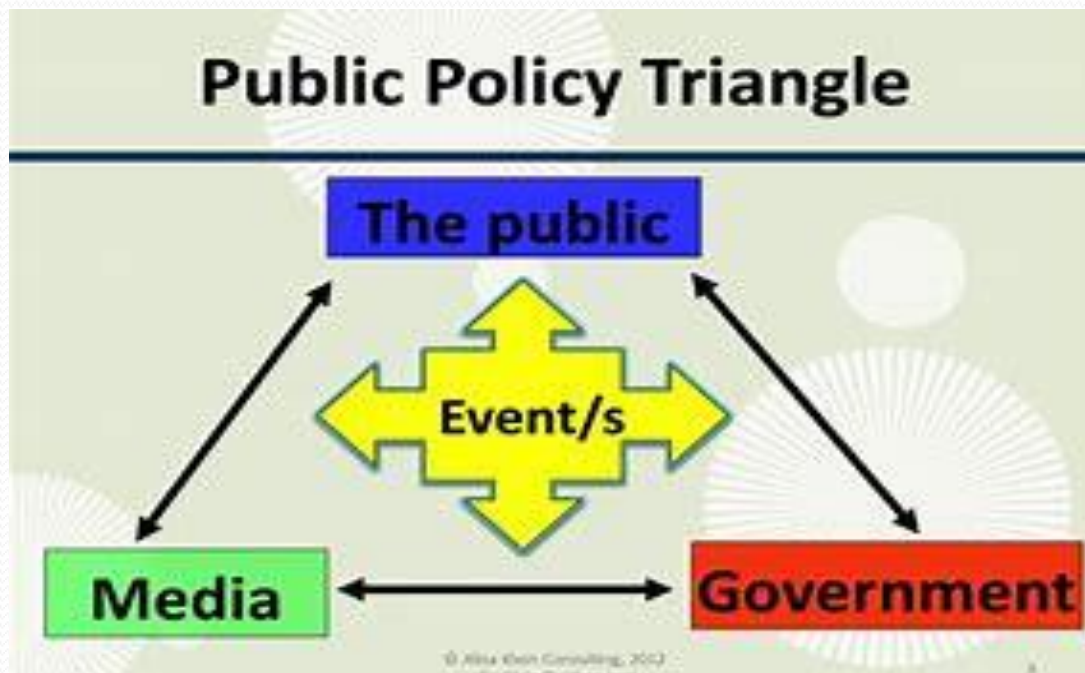


State Advocacy *(continued)*

- H.B. 297 (Rep Ginter (R-5) Rep. Powell (R-80)
Grant tax credit-contribute cash to pregnancy resource center (Introduced)
- S.B. 121 (Sen. Sykes (D-28) Sen. Kunze (R-16)
Adopt health education standards/GA need only approve Venereal Disease education



How to Advocate for change?



advocacy
to change “what is”
into “what should be”



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