



Advocacy Check list

1. Watch **Advocacy Training Videos** on the CSD website at <https://skincoalition.org/advocacy/>
2. Look up your elected officials online to get their contact info. In the US, you can find your legislator by using your address at: <https://www.commoncause.org/find-your-representative/addr/>. Once you find your legislators on the web, check them out - see if they are on any special committees (like Health and Human Services).
3. Call the offices of your legislators (both state and federal officials will have local offices) and ask for a meeting with them to share your story and ask them to support the CSD policy priorities—when you are on the call, ask for the email of the staff person you speak with.
4. If you don't get an email from the office you called, follow up with them, addressing the person you spoke with, to again request a meeting. Follow up one additional time if you don't hear back. Many offices are busy, but persistence pays off – hopefully you will get a meeting on the calendar!
5. Read through “**Best Practices for Meeting with your Legislator.**”
6. Go share your story and get to know your legislator/s! You may want to write your personal experience with skin disease out in advance and include pictures. As the saying goes, “Pictures speak a thousand words.” Print out your story to bring to the meeting with you along with any additional documents you'd like to leave behind on the policy issues you will be speaking with them about.
7. Follow up with any additional information they may ask for. Feel free to reach out to the CSD with any questions (info@coalitionofskindiseases.org).