



National  
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## Attending a Town Hall

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Town Halls, hosted by Senators and Representatives, come in many sizes and flavors. They can be held in person, on the phone, via Skype, by social media, or on other platforms. Sometimes they are by invite only and other times open to the public.

The universal constant for a Town Hall is the elected official's desire to connect with, and hear from, their constituents about the issues voters care about. They are excellent opportunities for you to voice your concerns, influence the legislator's decision making, and make your name, organization, and kidney disease issues known to your legislator.

Town Halls are typically held when elected officials are in-state during their "district work periods." You can check your legislator's legislative schedule here: [Senate](#) / [House](#). To participate in a Town Hall, [contact their district office](#) to find out when the next meeting is scheduled and how you can participate. Always ask to be included on the office's mailing list.

Some tips:

- Let your fellow kidney disease patients, donors, and their families know there is an upcoming meeting and plan to attend with them. The more the merrier!
- Many perspectives and topics will be covered. Make sure you plan ahead so that you may convey your message clearly and effectively.
- Identify yourself and let your legislator know you are a concerned kidney disease patient, living donor, or family member of a kidney disease patient.
- Discuss relevant and current issues that are important to kidney disease patients. Find up to date issue briefs and other information on [NKF's advocacy website](#).
- Share the results of the meeting with NKF's government relations staff at [nkfadvocacy@kidney.org](mailto:nkfadvocacy@kidney.org) and with your local NKF office.
- Follow up with the legislator's office ([and staff](#)) by email to thank them, reiterate your concerns, and emphasize their importance to you.

Contact Andrew Fullerton at [NKFadvocacy@kidney.org](mailto:NKFadvocacy@kidney.org) if you have any questions or would like to get involved.

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