ADVOCATING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

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PHACT Campaign

- APHA’s Annual Congressional Summer Recess Advocacy Campaign
  - Focuses on advocacy while members of Congress are home in their districts
- Engages APHA state affiliates, APHA members, and other supporters
- APHA provides materials and resources
- Encourages participants to share their stories with other advocates
PHACT Campaign Resources

- Sample email text for Congressional meeting requests
- Sample questions to ask at town hall meetings/public forums
- Tips on meeting with members of Congress
- Sample letters to the editor/op-eds
- Action alerts with the option to edit text to reflect priorities
- Fact sheets on public health issues
- State fact sheets on public health issues
2011 PHACT Campaign Legislative Priorities

- **Increasing public health funding:** Urge Congress to protect critical funding for public health service agencies including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration.

- **Protecting public health funding in health reform:** Encourage Congress to protect the Prevention and Public Health Fund, the first national commitment to public health and prevention of its kind, created under last year’s health reform law.
PHACT Campaign Successes

- Specific focus on Montana, Illinois, and Texas
- Letters to the editor and op-ed’s
  - Several published in papers across Montana
  - Submitted in Illinois, California, Nebraska, Texas, South Carolina, and Iowa
- Congressional meetings
  - Montana with Senate and House representation
  - Ohio with Senator Portman
  - Requested in Illinois and Texas, continuing requests
- Sign-on letters in support of public health funding
- More than 2,000 action alerts submitted to members of Congress
APHA Annual Meeting Hill Visits

- APHA’s Annual Meeting is in Washington, DC from October 29 – November 2
- We encourage meeting attendees to set up a meeting with their members of Congress to discuss public health priorities, including funding for CDC/HRSA and the Prevention Fund
- APHA’s staff will hold a “Training for Hill Visits” session at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 30 from 2:00 – 3:30 pm.
APHA has created a website with resources for setting up and attending a Capitol Hill meeting:
- Sample emails to request a meeting
- Fact sheets on public health funding and the Prevention and Public Health Fund
- State fact sheets on public health
- Tips on making a visit
- APHA vote record and links to relevant public health votes
- Maps of Capitol Hill
Questions?

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