

COMMUNITY ADVOCACY NETWORK (CTIPP-CAN)

Congress is beginning to learn about the powerful discoveries scientists have made regarding the causes and effects of toxic stress, and about exciting trauma-informed programs emerging across the country. However, for real policy change to occur, it will require a focused effort to educate Senators, Congresspersons and their staff and to advocate for new legislation.

The most effective advocates are people and programs located in the Senator's or Congressperson's state or district. Local constituents have the best access to the official's local and Washington staff. They likely have someone connected with their program who has a personal relationship with the elected official, who can help arrange meetings. They are also in the best position to identify changes needed in federal laws to facilitate the implementation of trauma-informed efforts. To promote and assist local advocacy, the Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice has created the CTIPP Community Advocacy Network (CTIPP-CAN).

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GOALS

1. To educate federal, state, tribal and local policy makers about what science has taught us about the causes and effects of trauma and toxic stress across the lifespan;
2. To propose and advocate for trauma-informed policies and programs;
3. To keep advocates informed about policy developments at the federal level; and
4. To share information and best practices between states, especially concerning state legislation and policy.

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALLS

CTIPP-CAN hosts monthly conference calls from 2-3:30 pm Eastern time on the third Wednesday of the month. On these calls, CTIPP:

- Solicits suggestions for legislative or policy changes.
- Shares information about current federal legislative activities.
- Discusses legislative strategy.
- Hosts presentations on topics of interest or new policy developments in the states.

Anyone is welcome to attend, although consistent participation helps. If you are interested, contact **Dan Press** at dsp@vnf.com.