

2025 HOSPITAL ADVOCACY DAYS

APRIL 2025



CARING FOR CONNECTICUT

2025 HOSPITAL ADVOCACY DAYS

Hospital Advocacy Days commence on Monday, April 21, and continue through the last week of May. Hospitals and health systems are encouraged to engage in any number of advocacy activities with members of their legislative delegation. Sending messages to our lawmakers about issues of importance to hospitals, especially during this critical time, is central to the Connecticut Hospital Association's (CHA) advocacy efforts.

As public health faces threats on the federal level, strengthening Connecticut hospitals is more important than ever to protect patient care. It is imperative that state legislators, officials, and stakeholders collaborate to fortify the healthcare delivery system here at home, advancing policies that drive the achievement of quality, equity, affordability, and accessibility goals.

Connecticut hospitals are improving the health of their communities by addressing root-cause drivers of poor health outcomes and health disparities. Their doors are always open, the lights are always on, and caregivers are always ready to heal, regardless of patients' ability to pay. To continue delivering exceptional care, they rely on support from and partnership with the government.

IN THIS TOOLKIT,

you will find advocacy materials and information about assistance available to further support your work to engage with members of your legislative delegation.

CHA encourages hospitals and health systems to engage in as many of these opportunities as possible to collectively make a difference in improving health across Connecticut.

Following your conversations with lawmakers, you can report back to CHA to further inform our collective advocacy efforts.

See page 10 to complete the checklist.

During the final weeks of the 2025 Legislative Session, *Hospital Advocacy Days* provide structured yet flexible opportunities for all Connecticut hospitals and health systems to maximize our collective impact and amplify our voice.





CONNECT WITH LAWMAKERS AT THE CAPITOL

SCHEDULE A DAY OF ADVOCACY TO MEET WITH YOUR LOCAL LAWMAKERS.





TAKE A PHOTO WITH YOUR LAWMAKERS AND THE "I SUPPORT MY LOCAL HOSPITAL" SIGN FOR SOCIAL SHARING.

Printed signs available from CHA, or can be downloaded here.

CONNECT WITH LAWMAKERS AT THE CAPITOL

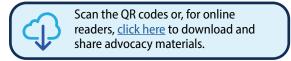
HAND DELIVER ADVOCACY MATERIALS, FACT SHEETS, AND INFOGRAPHICS TO YOUR LAWMAKERS. DOWNLOAD AND PRINT MATERIALS FROM LINKS BELOW, OR REQUEST PRINTED COPIES FROM CHA.











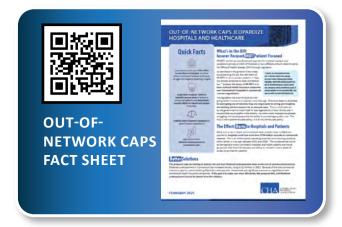
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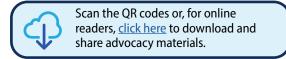
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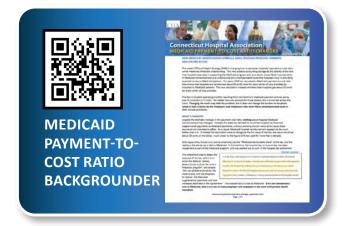
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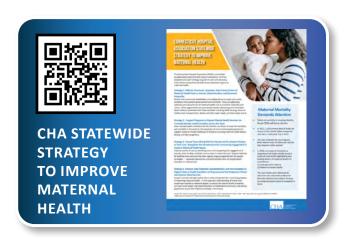




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SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

SHARE CONTENT FROM YOUR VISIT ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER COMMUNICATION CHANNELS. CONTENT CAN INCLUDE:







SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT













Download social media graphics and share across your channels! Scan the QR code or, for online readers, click here.

URGE LAWMAKERS TO OPPOSE HARMFUL PROPOSALS IN GOVERNOR LAMONT'S BUDGET, SUPPORT MEDICAID REFORM

Many of Governor Lamont's biennial budget proposals do the opposite of protecting patient care and would be devastating to local hospitals. These proposals would impose significant financial burdens on hospitals when they are already struggling, hurting patients and the healthcare workforce and making care more expensive and less accessible.

As part of your advocacy at the Capitol, you can urge lawmakers to <u>reject</u> hospital tax rebasing, out-of-network price caps, and reduced payments for state employee/retiree care. You can also encourage them to <u>support</u> Medicaid rate increases across the healthcare continuum, including for hospitals, and share how the state can reimagine Medicaid to best meet the needs of patients and communities.

Raising Medicaid reimbursement rates has received widespread bipartisan support. Legislators on both sides of the aisle recognize that massive Medicaid shortfalls are inhibiting access to care, driving up patient costs, and straining healthcare providers. The governor's budget proposals do nothing to ensure the state Medicaid program is paying hospitals fairly or addressing root-cause drivers of health. Connecticut hospitals have developed an innovative plan that leverages the hospital tax to accomplish both, and more.



Scan the QR code or, for online readers, <u>click here</u> for more information on the governor's harmful budget proposals.



Scan the QR code or, for online readers, <u>click here</u> for more information on CHA's Medicaid redesign framework.



REPORT BACK

Report Back! (You may include activities and meetings that occurred prior to the start of "Hospital Days.")
Hospital name:
Date of visit:
Name, title and preferred contact information of person who led the visit:
ACTIVITIES:
Included hospital CEO/key management staff in legislative meetings (list names):
Included hospital employees in legislative meetings (list names):
Discussed collaboration to address Medicaid underpayment and CHA's Medicaid redesign framework
Discussed opposition to proposals in the governor's budget that would jeopardize patient access to care
Rebasing the hospital tax
Capping out-of-network costs
Reduced payments for state employee/retiree care
Discussed certificate of need reforms
Discussed addressing commercial insurers' misuse of prior authorization
Discussed workforce shortages, recruitment, and retention challenges
Discussed initiatives to improve community health, maternal health outcomes, and health equity
Discussed the need to expand and invest in behavioral health services
Shared your advocacy efforts on social media:
Holding the "I Support My Local Hospital" sign at the Capitol
CHA Caring for Connecticut campaign graphic
Photos with your lawmakers
Issued a press release
Sent a follow-up thank you communication
Other:
Comments from legislator(s) on priority issues: Value of the legislative visit:

Please complete this page, save it, and email it to Karen Buckley at buckley@chime.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVOCACY!









For more information, please contact:



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