



Advocacy Training
An AAUWNC Grant Project
in partnership with
Action for Children NC

Goals of the Project Grant

Primary Goal

To enable our branches to approach their local C/U representative and student government with an institutional and politically neutral project that will empower the students by **learning advocacy skills and **building** leadership.**

Sub Goals

- **Increase** voter registration and voting in the 18 – 25 age group and develop voter education curriculum materials
- **Increase** community visibility to grow membership
- **Gain** younger branch members who have expressed interest in project work rather than traditional meetings (AAUW membership research)
- **Gain** C/U members and student affiliate members

To start this project

- School selection...a branch decision
- Appoint a project director or leader
- The director or leader puts together a committee of four or five diverse members

Timeline for Project

July 2007	Branch receives materials
August	Branch Board approves project Project Chair and Committee chosen
September	Project is introduced to Branch members
Early October	Contact school and arrange a small group project discussion meeting
Late October	Help student government leaders present project to students
November	Help group plan for a state legislator to visit campus

Time Line, continued

January 2008	Facilitate student group meeting with local government 2008 officials
February	Student Program – see program suggestions
March	Election Board Chair visits and students do Voter Registration on Campus
April	Student Program – see program suggestions Branches submit preliminary report at convention
May	Final Project Report Due

School Contact

Contact the College University Representative or if there is not one at the school...make it a goal to have one by the end of the project.

In the meantime, contact the community relations representative and set up a meeting, including the president of the student government...maybe over lunch.

Meeting Tips

- ◆ Remember the AAUW branch is the enabler or resource in this project...you don't actually do the work.

Meeting Tips

- ❖ Plan your school meeting with your committee. Lay out a committee agenda as to what will be covered and who will cover the subject. This helps to stay on topic.....time is limited.
- ❖ Be familiar with the kit and be able to concisely explain its purpose of enabling the students to learn how to become advocates for any issue

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Material divided into four sections
Section I - INTRODUCTION

“Knowledge is power”
Sir Francis Bacon

The goal of this toolkit is to provide you with the tools, skills and experiences necessary to establish advocacy agendas.

SECTION 1 continued

Who is Action for Children NC

The **vision** of Action for Children NC is that our state will be the best place to be a child and raise a child

To accomplish this they have a history of initiating positive changes for **all** children. One way they work is by creating partnerships with other groups that have similar goals. The American Association of University Women North Carolina is a partner for this project.

SECTION 2 LEARN ABOUT THE ISSUES AFFECTING THE COMMUNITY

- Family Economic Issues
- Child Health and Safety
- Education
- Child Maltreatment
- Juvenile Justice
- Legislation – State and Federal

SECTION 3 TAKE ACTION NOW



Ways You Can Make a Difference

This is the section that teaches the advocacy skills necessary to bring about change when it is needed in our communities, state and nation.

SECTION 4 Resources For Young Advocates

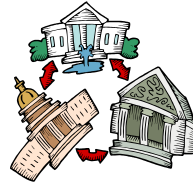
A listing of organizations/agencies and ways the young adult can get involved.

This provides the young adult numerous ways to speak up and speak out on issues of concern to them and their families.

Suggestions for student activities

Meet their government leaders

- LOCAL
- STATE
- MC – member of Congress



More Suggestions

Election Board Chair Presentation



Learn how to register to vote and other voter education tools (where to vote, early voting etc.)

Learn how to register others to vote

Have voter registration available on campus

Suggestions, continued

Invite local newspaper editor
to meet with students



Invite local agencies to meet with students, e.g.
Health Department
County/City Social Services
Housing Authority

Measures of Project Success

- Number of branches participating in the project
- Number of new members gained in three areas
 - C/U Representative
 - Branch members under 60 years of age
 - Student affiliate (may be hard to track)
- Number of campuses bringing delegates to the 2008 Women's Advocacy Day at the NC General Assembly

Branch Report

In late April each branch will be asked to complete a report form. This will enable the Grant Committee to submit the final report required by the Association in June 2008.

The Grant Committee Members are:

Marty Folsom, Communications

Sheila Bassoppo-Mayo, C/U Representative Chair

Mary Peterson, Advocacy Group Chair

Queen Thompson, Diversity Chair

Nancy Shoemaker, State President

Barbara White, Membership VP