

# 2024 National Advocate of the Year Award



As part of fulfilling its mission of “advocating for local health departments,” NACCHO seeks to recognize outstanding accomplishments related to advocacy and outreach to Members of the United States Congress to better health policy outcomes in calendar year 2023.

Many factors go into policymaking decisions. Successful advocacy does not necessarily mean Congress changed or implemented a policy, law or funding level based on recommendations. However, a successful advocate will develop a meaningful relationship with a lawmaker and their staff, and become a trusted messenger and resource in public health matters. Lawmakers are not experts in public health policy, and they rely on their staff and constituents like local health officials to educate them on policy and fiscal matters in order to craft legislation that keeps Americans healthy and safe. The deadline to submit applications is January 8, 2024 at 11:59 PST.

## How to Apply

Eligible applicants are any local health department staff. Applicants are asked to provide a detailed yet concise description (500 words maximum) of their advocacy work to address public health issues at the federal level. NACCHO members may nominate another NACCHO member or themselves. The winning application may include one or some of the following:

### I. Virtual Activities

- Wrote and sent a personalized letter to a Member of Congress
- Talked with congressional staff by phone
- Tweeted at a Member of Congress
- Wrote an op-ed in a local or national publication promoting the work of public health
- Sent a NACCHO-prepared email to a Member of Congress
- Posted on a Member of Congress’ Facebook wall

### II. Meeting Activities

- Met with a Member of Congress and/or Congressional staff virtually or at their district office

### III. Cultivate Third Party Validators

- Cultivate leaders outside of local health department to speak in support of the department’s priorities and/or funding.

## Eligibility

To apply for this award, applicants must show documentation of their advocacy efforts. One awardee will be selected by the NACCHO Past Presidents Council. Award recipients will be notified in the spring and will be recognized at NACCHO360, which will be held in Detroit, MI, July 23–26, 2024. There is no requirement to pay an application fee for the submission process. Please submit your application by emailing [membership@naccho.org](mailto:membership@naccho.org).

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**First, tell us about you:**

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Health Department:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

E-mail:

**Now, tell us about the person you are nominating:**

First Name:

Last Name:

Job Title:

Health Department:

Health Department Size:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

E-mail:

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Provide a detailed yet concise description (500 words maximum) of the advocacy work over time to address public health issues at the federal level. Please describe outcomes or progress.

### Supporting Materials

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**NACCHO**

National Association of County & City Health Officials

*The National Connection for Local Public Health*



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to improve the health of communities by strengthening and advocating for local health departments.

1201 Eye Street, NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20005

P 202.783.5550 F 202.783.1583

[www.naccho.org](http://www.naccho.org)

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