



Attending Town Halls

Attending a Town Hall meeting or other event when your member is back in the state or district is a great way to meet them at home when their schedules are less hectic. Additionally, it is a great way to make a connection as a community member.

What is a Town Hall?

Town Halls are one of the most effective, but underutilized, ways to communicate with members of Congress. A Town Hall is a public meeting where constituents can interact directly with their elected officials. These events provide a platform for you to voice concerns, ask questions, and share your expert opinion on health-related issues.

How to Find a Town Hall

- Call your member of Congress' district office to ask them if they have any upcoming Town Hall dates.
- Check your member of Congress's official website or social media pages for upcoming Town Hall dates.
- You can also sign up for newsletters from your members to stay informed about local events.

Preparing for a Town Hall

- Do your research: Know your member's stance on key health issues. Be aware of any recent votes or public statements they've made. You can find this information on their websites and www.congress.gov.
- Refine your message and questions: Focus on one or two specific issues. Personal stories and data can be compelling. Make sure your questions are clear, concise, and directly related to the policy issues.
- Be prepared: If you have any questions before the town hall event, reach out to your member of Congress' district office for clarification.

During the Town Hall

- Arrive early: This ensures you get a seat and may provide an opportunity to speak with the representative or their staff before the event starts.
- Be respectful and professional: Even if you disagree with the member's positions on specific policies, maintain a respectful tone.
- Ask your question: Introduce yourself as a physician and ASH member and briefly share your talking points and questions. Be concise and stick to the main points.

Town Hall Follow-Up

- Send a thank you email to your member of Congress and/or their staff.
 - Reiterate your talking points.
 - Offer to be a resource in the future.
 - Say thank you!

Town Hall Tips

- Learn the procedure.
- Be prepared.
- Introduce yourself to the member of Congress and their staff.
- Clearly articulate your asks/questions.
- Say thank you!