



## NADSA Advocates Report Best Capitol Hill Day!

On May 9<sup>th</sup> forty-eight NADSA members representing eighteen states trekked to the offices of eighty-two Members of Congress and the United States Senate for pre-arranged appointments and initiated additional drop-in visits.

Several NADSA members reported that they had the best meetings of the three to five years they have volunteered to carry NADSA's message and concerns to our federal lawmakers. While it is always nice to have a photo-op with the elected official, and there were some of those, in most cases the pre-arranged appointments were with senior staff – the people who are charged with gathering and analyzing information to make recommendations to the elected officials individually and to committees.

Teams of NADSA members explained that we recognize the difficulties Congress is facing with the high and increasing costs of Medicare and Medicaid and that the systems will be stressed even further with the "Boomer" generation coming into these programs. We explained that we recognize the need to modernize these programs to make them sustainable into the future and we offered solutions including both government and private sector data to support them. We offered support for certain bi-partisan legislation already introduced and encouraged additional Representatives and Senators to sign-on as co-sponsors to these bills. The staff was sufficiently engaged that in many cases the appointments lasted longer than had been scheduled.

To view the handout information we provided to the officials, go to the Public Policy page of [www.nadsa.org](http://www.nadsa.org) or use this link: <http://www.nadsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/NADSA-Public-Policy-Day-2017-Documents.pdf>.

Follow-up is important! Your NADSA volunteers who came to Washington to carry the NADSA message will follow-up directly to the people with whom they met on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The efforts of these volunteers during the past five years combined with the collaborative activity of the NADSA Board of Directors and the Afflerbach Group have branded NADSA in the minds of key legislators and have moved the goal forward in recognizing adult day services as *the* most cost-effective option for payors and consumers in need of long-term services and supports (LTSS) at a home and community based (HCBS) level.

To increase the momentum and support generated on May 9<sup>th</sup>, download the advocacy issue documents and share them with your U.S. Representative and Senator at their local district offices. If you are unsure of the contact information for the district offices, use these links:

Senate: [https://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm)

House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/>

Should you desire additional information or have suggestions, please email [nadsapublicpolicy@theafflerbachgroup.com](mailto:nadsapublicpolicy@theafflerbachgroup.com).

Finally, consider joining the NADSA Public Policy Advocacy Team next spring to personally share in the rewarding experience of advocating for public policy in the legislative offices of our Nation's Capitol!

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