COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES & ACTION IDEAS FOR LEGISLATORS

Legislators can play an important role in improving the health of their constituents and the care they receive. The following activities will help increase visibility and awareness of HPV and cervical cancer and encourage constituents to actively participate in their own health and healthcare decisions.

- Host a town hall meeting briefing for constituents or colleagues.
- Visit local groups and organizations to speak about HPV and cervical cancer.
- Introduce or co-sponsor a resolution focused on HPV and cervical cancer.
- Speak about the importance of HPV vaccination and/or cervical cancer screening at a local health fair, parent-teacher association meeting, or school assembly.
- Encourage your state to establish a task force or work with existing coalitions, to gather data and information about HPV and cervical cancer-related issues, such as access to vaccination and screening, prevalence of education and awareness, and availability of community resources.
- Hold a press conference to raise awareness of the importance of vaccines and screening.
- Distribute a newsletter discussing HPV and cervical cancer as well as women’s health.
- Contact the Office of Women’s Health in your state to partner on outreach to constituents through the public health system.
- Launch an awareness and education social media campaign about HPV and cervical cancer.
- Identify wellness and prevention programs within your district and make this information available to constituents.
- Reach out to local healthcare professionals, such as physicians, nurse practitioners, or the Office of Women’s Health to encourage education and awareness of HPV and cervical cancer in the community.
- Reach out to local or regional chapters of medical societies like the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health (NPWH). Both are great resources to reach larger groups of targeted healthcare providers.
- Organize an Awareness Day in the Capitol (January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, September is National Gynecological Cancer Awareness Month).
- Help organize or sponsor a support group in your district.