



California Family  
Resource Association  
*Strong Families. Strong Communities.*

## **Family Resource Center Advocacy**

### **Identification of Senator/Assemblymember**

To identify the state Senator and Assemblymember that represent you/your FRC, please visit [Find Address \(ca.gov\)](#). Input your personal or FRC address, which will result in the site providing your specific representatives.

For the purpose of the FRC budget support, the key focus will be on Senate and Assembly Budget Committee members (see attached matrix); however, all members will benefit from outreach and a request for support on these budget items. Even if your legislator(s) does not serve on the budget committee, please encourage them to share their support of the budget proposals with their budget committee colleagues.

### **Steps**

Be sure to submit a support letter on the two budget proposals from your organization. Further, when scheduling the meeting with your respective Senator/Assemblymember, be sure to attach the submitted letter (on your letterhead!) with your scheduling request below.

### **Scheduling**

Contact the scheduler via email to request a Zoom meeting request. See template below:

Hello:

On behalf (*Insert FRC Name*), I respectfully request an opportunity to schedule a virtual meeting with Assemblymember/Senator (*Insert Members Name*).

The topic of the meeting is to discuss (*Insert FRC Name*) current work in the member's district and the growing challenges we face to continue to support the most vulnerable children and families in the member's district and the most vulnerable communities. Additionally, we would like to discuss our support for two of the Governor's budget proposals that seek to support Family Resource Centers.

Please advise if a virtual meeting is possible.

Thank you,

Name  
Title  
Organization  
Contact Information

### **Beginning of the meeting**

- Introduce yourself: your name, title, and name of the family resource center.
- Thank the member and their staff for their time in meeting with the group.

### **Talking points about Family Resource Centers**

- Explain what is an FRC? How your FRC is unique, what services and resources you provide, and the community you serve within the member's district.
- Discuss how your FRC has been successful in the community. (Give examples)
- Discuss the funding difficulties that your FRC (and others like you across the state) face amid and prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Discuss the increased demand in services and resources that the pandemic has caused.
- Discuss the COVID-19 emergency funding your FRC received in 2020, as applicable, and how it was helpful to meet the need of the children and families served.
- How would more funding help staff, families, and children.

### **At the end of the meeting**

- Thank the member & Staff for their time
- Ask if they have any questions.
- Ask if they would like any follow up information? Make sure to obtain their contact information, especially their email address to follow up with additional information and a thank you note.

### **Talking Points**

- We are pleased to support the Governor's budget that recognizes the incredible work Family Resource Centers, including our organization, do to support "your" (Senator/Assemblymember) constituents.
- The Governor's budget proposes funding for FRCs to support children and families impacted by COVID-19 and in an effort to avoid them entering the child welfare system.
- Additionally, the Governor's budget proposes funding to have FRCs serve as community navigators to support connecting children and families in need of services with access via the regional center system and Department of Developmental Services (DDS).
  - FRCs are well positioned to provide such community navigation as trusted members of our community. We reflect the ethnic and linguistic needs of our community, which helps ensure we are a trusted resource within our

communities to help connect these children and families to these critical services.

- We have been engaged in similar navigator efforts including working to support access to the EITC, DACA, Covered California, etc. (as relevant for your agency)
- We respectfully request you support these budget requests and, to the extent it is possible with the +\$10.5B in revenue to the state that was not part of the initial projects, push for additional funding beyond what is proposed to support FRCs in providing these critical supports to the most marginalized children and families within your communities.
- Thank you!