



Association of California Community & Energy Services

ACCES Advocacy Committee Charter

The ACCES Board of Directors will establish an ACCES Advocacy Committee that will focus on education, information sharing and communication to elected and policy officials within government and organizations whose actions and decisions affect the ACCES membership, their constituents and the general public related to their program mission.

The Committee shall be comprised of at least one (1) Board member and no more than four (4) ACCES Local Service Provider members representing California communities. ACCES staff will provide support to the committee as required. The committee will determine a regular meeting schedule throughout the year and provide reporting on activities undertaken at the ACCES Board meetings.

The committee's focus will be on the following but is not limited to:

- Identify issues that ACCES should focus on.
- Develop a Legislative Strategy that inspires supporters to make their voices heard
- Develop a Governmental and Public Relations Strategy that advances ACCES mission
- Identify and build strong and greater coalitions amongst its members and other organizations with similar priorities and mission.
- Participate and/or establish Legislative Advocacy events that promote awareness on important issues, policy directions or funding opportunities for the ACCES network.
- Provide letters of support or opposition on critical policies that impact the delivery of programs.
- Create Data Sheets on current programs to share with elected officials, policy makers and the general public.
- Host or participate in Legislative Days at state Capitols or at US Capitol promoting and advocating program successes, needs or changes in policy direction.
- Create and solicit for an unrestricted Advocacy Fund to be used for the furtherance of an appropriate legislative position.

Key Audiences:

- Elected officials from local, state and federal government agencies.
- Policy Staffer within important agencies from local, state and federal agencies.
- ACCES Membership.
- LSP clients who can voice their concerns or share their experiences about their participation in LSP programs.
- Others identified by the ACCES board and Advocacy Committee.

Our mission is to ensure equity in access to program services for low-income households and to enhance the quality and depth of these services.