



## STEP 6

# Meet with legislators

This is the opportunity to bring steps 1-5 together with a meaningful interaction among hospital leaders, community organizations that share your hospital's values, and the policymakers who will ultimately determine the fate of health care access in your community.

### STEP 6 Deliverables:

**(A): Completion of a fact sheet, based on the work in step 2, that will be provided to legislators during their hospital tour.**

**(B): Completion of hospital tours and conversations with legislators.**

**(C): Completion of a post-visit follow-up, thanking legislators for their time and for their commitment to protecting access to health care in your community.**

Meeting with legislators offers an opportunity to discuss the scope of the seismic requirements and lets them hear the challenges and impacts on their constituents. Community leaders and partners joining the conversation will be able to speak to the concerns of their constituencies and emphasize how the hospital is critical to health care access and equity.

#### To plan your meetings with legislators, follow these steps:

- Identify the legislators you will meet with.
- Schedule the visit ASAP (replicate the tour developed in step 3). Contact your representative's district office to schedule the visit **at least two months prior to your desired meeting date** (e.g., in September or October for visits in November or December). Know the exact length of time you want to spend with your legislator before making the appointment.
- Tailor to legislators' interests. Identify your legislators' focus areas and customize the visit and discussion accordingly to best connect with them. Know their history and depth of knowledge on both general health care issues and on seismic requirements.
- Prepare a fact sheet based on the work in step 2. Summarize data and information regarding the care you provide for your shared community constituents and what you have done to meet the 2020 seismic standards.
- Follow up after the visit. Send both a follow-up letter and an email thanking your legislator and their staff for taking the time to visit your hospital.