Relationships are essential for successful advocacy. That’s why the Texas Medical Association Alliance (TMAA) is taking its award-winning grassroots program, First Tuesdays at the Capitol, to the DISTRICT.

TMA Alliance members, along with county medical societies, will schedule visits with local legislators and their staff to establish and/or continue building strong and meaningful relationships.

Join us! Visit www.texmedalliance.org or contact Pam Udall at TMA at (512) 413-6807 or pam.udall@texmed.org.

The Plan
The First Tuesdays in the District (FTID) team, consisting of TMAA members, physicians, and medical students will visit their legislator at least three times between Oct. 1, 2019 and December 2020. The visits are focused on relationship building, with members listening and learning about their representative.

1 The First Visit: Oct. 1–Dec. 3, 2019
   GOAL: Listen and learn

The purpose of the first visit is to two-fold: First to thank the legislator and their staff for their hard work during the 86th legislative session. Second is to introduce new members of the family of medicine to legislators and their staff. It’s the perfect opportunity to grow advocacy networks for both TMA and county medical societies.

Items to discuss and questions to ask:
✓ What issues are the most important to them?
✓ What was their legislative success story? What did they do last session that was the most meaningful?
✓ What are their goals moving forward?
✓ How can we help them accomplish these goals?

Actions to take after the visit:
✓ Send a thank you. A handwritten note is best, but an email will suffice.
✓ Share a photo on your county medical society alliance or county medical society social media pages, in newsletters, on your website, etc. Hashtags to use on social media: #FTID #tmaa #tmaalliance #tmaainaction
✓ Follow your legislator on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
✓ Invite your legislator to speak at your organization
✓ Invite them to attend a Hard Hats for Little Heads, Be Wise Immunize™, Walk With a Doc, or another community health event

2 Second Visit: Late Spring 2020
   GOAL: Become a trusted source

The purpose of the second visit is to learn where your legislator stands on medicine’s issues and how we can help them by providing expertise, data, and specific examples to support their stance, etc. We want them to learn we are their trusted source.

Also invite the legislator and his/her staff to shadow you at your office, clinic, or hospital setting. We want them to spend at least half a day in a medical practice or hospital setting.

3 Third Visit: Fall 2020, leading into the 87th Texas Legislative Session
   GOAL: Share TMA’s 2021 legislative agenda

The third visit will involve the FTID advocacy team sharing TMA’s Healthy Vision 2025 – its legislative agenda for the 87th session.

We also want to find issues we have in common, and to see how we can work together to improve the health of their district.