



10 Things **You** Can Do to Get Your Issue in the Next State Budget

1. Write a letter to your state legislators: Share your personal story and your commitment to providing the very best after school programming to our state's children. You can find out who represents you and how to reach them at www.legis.wi.us.
2. Join the After School Network and take action! Visit www.wccf.org/proj_afterschool.php
3. Invite your legislators to visit your program. Take a picture of them with people from your program (staff, kids, parents) and send a copy along with a thank you.
4. Add your elected officials to your newsletter mailing list. Let them learn about all the great things you do everyday.
5. Get to know the staff to your legislators. Let them know you can serve as a local resource on after school.
6. Speak out to friends, colleagues, family, and others about the benefits of high quality after school programs.
7. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper (a daily or weekly – legislators and staff read both regularly).
8. **VOTE!** Be an informed voter and vote regularly.
9. Get creative and “advertise” you issue: make simple buttons for supporters to wear at hearings; create a symbol for your campaign and use it!; ask kids to make art work about their experience and send it to your legislators.
10. Create opportunities for parents to act: make calls, write letters, give testimony... and invite them to join the After School Network as well.

Adapted from *My Advocacy To Do List* by the WI Early Childhood Association