

Advocacy & Policy Committee Charter

updated 10.27.2022

Strategic Plan Goal:

To be the trusted NICU parent and family voice for maternal-infant issues nationally.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Advocacy & Policy Committee is to review maternal-infant health policy topics of interest to NPN members and the families they serve. This committee is tasked with gathering unbiased information on all topics, providing education opportunities for NPN members on such topics and recommending if and when NPN should publicly advocate for a specific measure, legislation, recommendations, etc. This committee is also responsible for reviewing requests made by researchers to disseminate caregiver surveys, developing a multi-disciplinary advisory board, and staying current on all “hot topic” issues related to maternal-infant health, specific to NICU and bereaved families. The committee shall always consider the various types of organizations represented, phase of organizational and leadership development present within our membership, unique and diverse needs of the communities NPN members serve, and the overarching competencies required of professional NICU Parent Leaders.

Membership:

The committee shall consist of two Co-Chairs. One Co-Chair shall be an NPN Board of Directors representative and the other Co-Chair shall be a representative from NPN membership.

There should be no fewer than 5 people on the committee and members shall serve a minimum of two year term. There is no limit to the number of terms a member can serve. All committee members are expected to attend 80% of all committee meetings within each calendar year. If a committee member can not attend a meeting written notice to the committee Co-Chairs and NPN Admin is requested at least 24 hours in advance.

(Co-Chair responsibilities and terms are listed here: [Co-Chair & Committee Member Expectations](#))

The Co-Chairs shall also oversee the development of NPN’s Advisory Board that will have a separate charter to be determined by the Co-Chairs and approved by the Board of Directors.

Primary Responsibilities:

Primary responsibilities of the Advocacy & Policy Committee include but are not limited to:

- Annual review & overseeing updates of NPN's Policies & Procedures
- Review survey or other consulting requests sent to NPN & follow established protocol for dissemination, follow-up, and feedback in coordination with Social Media/Website Mgr, Executive Director, and Admin Support
- Aligning all activities within the NPN Strategic Plan Goals, Objectives & Strategies.
- Developing, implementing, and monitoring Action Plans related to each strategy
- Represent NPN on national and international perinatal and neonatal coalitions and steering committees (NCfIH, TEACaN, INC, EFCNI, etc)
- Write and disseminate position papers and statements on topics of interest to NPN members to support their work
- Educating the broader maternal infant health community on the professional role of NICU Parent Leaders
- Act as staunch advocates for Parents as Partners in neonatal care, Family Centered Developmental Care and Family Integrated Care
- Coordinate with Professional Development Committee to ensure topics are incorporated into the content calendar as needed