SAGE's National Day of Advocacy
March 13, 2019
Frequently Asked Questions

What is SAGE's National Day of Advocacy?
LGBT older people and those living with HIV will have an opportunity to share their stories with their Members of Congress. Share what your experience has been like to age as an LGBT person and/or someone living with HIV. Share a story about discrimination you may have faced. Share a story about how being LGBT or living with HIV has empowered you to overcome an obstacle. Tell them why you hope to grow older free from discrimination and with access to LGBT-friendly services and supports. Just tell your story.

When is SAGE's National Day of Advocacy?
Wednesday, March 13, 2018.

Where is SAGE's National Day of Advocacy?
Washington, D.C.

What is the agenda for SAGE's National Day of Advocacy?
We'll have breakfast and spend the morning hearing from experts who will share advocacy tips. We'll have lunch on Capitol Hill and then go to the offices of our Members of Congress to tell our stories. In the evening, we will close with a cocktail reception. See the full agenda at sageusa.org/advocacy.

How do I get to Washington, D.C.?
Anyone who is able to join us is welcome! If you live in the DC, Maryland, or Virginia region, we especially encourage you to attend—we will provide breakfast, lunch and small bites at the evening reception. If you live in New York City, we will get you there by bus for free, plus provide breakfast, lunch and dinner! Find out more details at sageusa.org/advocacy.

What if I don't have a story related to LGBT aging, HIV and aging, or I'm not prepared to share my story?
In the morning, over breakfast, our experts will coach you toward finding your story. They will share advocacy tips that you can use throughout the day. You can practice sharing your story and prepare for your meeting with your Members of Congress.

Do I need previous experience with advocacy or policy matters?
No, you do not need to be a policy expert, nor do you need to have advocated prior to SAGE's National Day of Advocacy.

sage | Advocacy & Services for LGBT Elders
We refuse to be invisible
NATIONAL DAY OF ADVOCACY 3.13.2019

What do I talk about when meeting my representatives?
We ask you to simply share your story. Share what your experience has been like to age as an LGBT person or someone living with HIV. Share the story of LGBT-based or HIV-based discrimination you may faced, or other challenges you may have had with housing, food insecurity, or any other issues. You can also talk about a person you know who has experienced any of these challenges. Don't forget to talk about how being LGBT or living with HIV has taught you to overcome life's challenges and thrive.

Will I actually meet my member of Congress?
You will most likely meet with congressional staff, not actual members of congress.

Are all spaces ADA compliant? What if I have specific accommodation needs?
Capitol Hill facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. SAGE will ado its best to accommodate those with disabilities. Please email ndoa@sageusa.org about specific needs you might have.

Will there be a lot of walking?
Yes, you will need to walk to the House and Senate office buildings, to the offices of Members of Congress, and to the evening reception. However, if walking poses an issue for you, please email ndoa@sageusa.org about specific accommodations.

Will I need to go through security?
Every time you enter one of the House or Senate Office buildings you will have to go through security. It's similar to the security at an airport, but you *are* allowed to bring water bottles, drinks, and food. Please note that knives, weapons, knitting needles, spray containers and very large bags are prohibited from all of the buildings.

What should I wear?
Generally speaking, "business casual" attire would be ideal. We recommend that you wear comfortable shoes and dress in layers in case you get hot or cold. If you register ahead of time, we will provide you with a SAGE T-shirt.

Will there be a place for me to store my belongings?
If you bring a coat, bag, or other personal items, you must carry them with you wherever you go throughout the day.

What can I expect at the reception?
It is a cocktail reception with D.C. area aging and LGBT advocates. It will feature small bites and beverages.

Who should I contact if I have questions?
Email ndoa@sagusa.org.