

# Advocating with One Voice - Together While Apart

by Danielle Womack, MPH

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**E**lections and new legislative sessions provide a unique opportunity to foster relationships with policymakers across the state. With the Wisconsin State Legislature beginning its work in early January, now is the perfect time to reach out to your elected officials and establish yourself as a pharmacy resource.

If you have ever attended PSW's annual Legislative Day, held annually in February or March, you know that this conference is an opportunity to hear about the latest news in pharmacy and healthcare policy, as well as meet with your legislators and advocate for pro-pharmacy legislation.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we cannot host our traditional Legislative Day this year – but that doesn't mean our advocacy efforts have waned! Instead, we are focusing on advocacy efforts throughout March and hosting the first PSW Month of Advocacy!

PSW's Month of Advocacy will include a series of events held a few times per week, focusing on hot topics in pharmacy policy – PBM reform, compounding regulations, COVID-19, provider status, recent law updates, and more. You'll have the chance to hear from elected officials, Pharmacy Examining Board members, and national experts on pharmacy policy. And, of course, we'll provide opportunities to connect with your legislative leaders through virtual communications and our Pharmacy Legislative Action Network (PLAN).

We ask that you pre-register for all events you plan to attend by visiting [pswi.org/moa](http://pswi.org/moa). The Month of Advocacy is free to all PSW

members. Still, you may consider contributing to our Legislative Defense Fund or the PSW Friends of Pharmacy Fund to support our advocacy efforts. The PSW Friends of Pharmacy Fund contributes funds to pro-pharmacy candidates for elected office. Unlike the Friends of Pharmacy Fund, donations to the Legislative Defense Fund are not political contributions and are not given to any political candidates. Instead, these funds are used to support PSW's advocacy efforts, including lobbyist staff and grassroots advocacy software. For more information or to contribute, visit [pswi.org](http://pswi.org).

PSW's top priorities for the 2021-2022 legislative session include expanding immunization authorities, pharmacy benefit manager reform, provider status, and matters surrounding technician roles. As legislation is introduced, all members will be updated through FastFacts. PLAN members will also receive additional communications relating to our legislative work and priorities – be sure to register if you are not yet a PLAN member by visiting [www.pswi.org/plan](http://www.pswi.org/plan).

With the new year and new legislative session, now is the best time to connect with both new and returning policymakers in Wisconsin – health care is a top issue for elected officials, and they want to hear from you! As we seek to make policy changes that better allow you to serve your patients, pharmacy professionals must be their own advocates and be at the table. I can't wait to see you all during our Month of Advocacy – **advocating with one voice, together while apart.**

- Danielle Womack, MPH  
Vice President, Public Affairs

ADVOCACY

MONTH OF



One Voice. Together While Apart.