



What To Expect During Housing Opportunity Day

Logistics

We will take care of all of the logistics of legislative meetings including scheduling visits with your legislators. You will be able to focus on the stories you want to share and the messages you want to leave with your legislators.

When you arrive at Housing Opportunity Day on March 11th, we will provide you with an index card that includes:

- List of visits to which you are assigned
- Members of your teams
- Visit times

You will also receive a folder with several handouts including:

- Information on the Housing Alliance' legislative agenda – these are also available and updated regularly on the Housing Alliance web site www.oregonhousingalliance.org
- Some messaging reminders
- The agenda for the day – we have lots planned, so come prepared to learn, engage, and share your enthusiasm

15 Minute Visits!

These visits are short, so it's important that we use our time efficiently and effectively. In order to keep things running smoothly and deliver a coherent message, you will want to prepare for the visit with your team and decide which role each of you will play in the conversation. For the purposes of this role-play, we've highlighted two roles. On Housing Opportunity Day, you can break these roles down further to account for the number of people on your team.

The roles you will be working with are as follows:

Team Lead

We will assign a team lead for each visit. Team leads are responsible for:

Introductions

- Allow everyone on your team to introduce themselves, note who is from the legislator's district, and identify their interest or connection to affordable housing or homelessness

Explaining the issues

- Tell the legislator know why we are here today, highlight the unmet needs in your community
- Provide key points of the legislative agenda
- What we are asking for from them?

Keeping the conversation on track

Story Teller

To help your legislator understand the human impact of the policies for which we are advocating, it's important to share a personal story. It's easiest and most effective when we share stories from our experience, either something that happened to us directly or something that we helped another person face.

Story structure

- 1) Values
- 2) Story
 - a. Give background: How did you or the person you're speaking about arrive at a challenging point in their life? When and where was this?
 - b. What happened to you/them when confronted with a challenge?
 - c. What is life like now after the challenge was faced?
- 3) The ask