

Committee Chair: Becky Weber

Members: Bernadette Schrempp, Teresa Sanford-Shippett, Dan Whalen, Jessica Edmond

Ex Officio:

Staff Liaison: Kristin Kaufman

Other Staff: Denise McCaffrey

PURPOSE:

To provide direction and leadership for the organization in promoting effective public policy related to children and families to improve their well being and reduce child abuse, and in building and maintaining effective partnerships with other child advocates and organizations.

STRUCTURE:

Minimally two board members and one PCA Illinois staff member. A board member serves as committee chair. Can also include non-board members as long as they do not exceed the number of board members on the committee. Can also include additional support staff.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

Regular meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of January, April, July and October by teleconference at 8:30 a.m. Other meetings are scheduled as needed.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Maintain a formal affiliate structure and regular contacts with other child advocates and organizations in Illinois
- Stay current on key child welfare, family, and caregiving issues
- Stay current with the public policy issues and positions promoted by PCA America
- Inform and engage the full board on advocacy issues and make recommendations for action as appropriate
- Review the Strategic Plan on a quarterly basis to ensure all targeted outcomes are met

GOALS FOR FY 2022

- Hold an annual advocacy partner's meeting to facilitate networking, share information, and update board and staff on advocacy issues
- Identify specific issues as needed to adopt and promote in the Illinois legislature
- Participate in the Early Childhood and Home Visitor Programs Advocacy Day
- Participate in the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs Legislation Day
- Research how 501(c) (3) status impacts the ability of staff to do advocacy work
- Continue our current working relationship with child advocacy organizations
- Maintain a webpage on the PCA Illinois website for advocacy
- Review the training on how to use the Illinois Legislative Website to track legislation
- Continue work on strategies of the PCA Illinois Strategic Plan