

2026 Advocacy Impact Calendar

Make sure your state is prepared to capitalize on the programs authorized by the FASD Respect Act and help secure greater funding by using this Impact Calendar for 2026. Exact timing of objectives is dependent on your state's legislative calendar and current capacity to address FASD. The important thing is to make steady progress throughout the year by building relationships and starting conversations.

Q1 Appropriations

Objectives

- Complete appropriation questionnaire
- Arrange meetings with legislators
- Follow up with contacts

Support

- Appropriation request form questionnaire
- Talking points
- Slides and presentations



Q2 State Agency Outreach

Objectives

- Connect with state agencies
- Determine where FASD fits into current state systems

Support

- State agency mapping tool
- Talking points
- Slides and presentations



Q3 Legislative Outreach

Objectives

- Identify State Champions
- Submit Awareness Month proclamation requests
- General outreach and awareness

Support

- Awareness Month Proclamation templates
- Slides and presentations



Q4 State Legislation Introduction

Objectives

- Introduce state legislation for FASD State Coordinator and Advisory Committee

Support

- Draft language for legislation or executive order



Q1 Appropriations

You are helping secure greater funding for FASD programs authorized in the FASD Respect Act. Appropriations above the authorized \$12.5 M/year are needed to ensure FASD programs are sustainable and equitable. FASD United will support Affiliates, advocates, and organizations by formally **submitting appropriations requests** on their behalf. We will also provide **talking points and slides** that can be used when **meeting with federal legislators**. You can help by **completing a short form describing your state's needs** and current capacity.

Q2 State Agency Outreach

This is the time to initiate or build on relationships with state agencies that interact with FASD. States need to understand how FASD fits into their current systems and how the FASD Respect Act can increase their capacity to address FASD. FASD United will help by creating a **Mapping Tool** to help identify points of entry for FASD supports in your state. We will also provide **talking points and slides** that can be used when **meeting with state agencies**. You can make in impact by **reaching out state agency contacts for meetings** to start the process of identifying where FASD fits in and how the Respect Act aligns with agency goals.

Q3 Legislative Outreach

Building on the relationships formed with state agencies, you will now build relationships with state legislators who can champion FASD policy and awareness in your state. Having FASD-informed decisionmakers working with FASD-informed state agencies will lead to systemic change at the state level. You can lead the way by **contacting state legislators with an interest in FASD or a related field to get the conversation started**. You should also **submit a proclamation request to your governor to acknowledge September 9th as FASD Awareness Day**, along with any other FASD Awareness Month activities you have planned. FASD United has developed an **FASD Awareness Day Proclamation** you can use, along with an entire **Awareness Month Toolkit**. We can also provide **specific talking points and slides for use in meetings with state legislators**.

Q4 State Legislation Introduction

Your advocacy in 2026 will culminate with the **introduction of legislation or issuance of an executive order creating an FASD Advisory Committee and State Coordinator** in alignment with the FASD Respect Act. You can partner with your state champion to introduce a bill or request an executive order, leveraging the relationships built with state agencies and other organizations in your state. FASD United has drafted **model legislation and executive orders** that can be customized with your state champion, and we will be available to **assist with any meetings**.

FASD United is here to support you at each step. This work takes national coordination and state-level knowledge, so stay connected to FASD United to share updates, ask for support, and learn how other states are progressing.

Q1 Appropriations

The first quarter is our opportunity to secure greater funding for the programs authorized in the FASD Respect Act. Congress decides how much money is actually provided for authorized programs each year through the **appropriations process**. This provides an opportunity to demonstrate the need for and benefits of increased funding for FASD. To ensure FASD Respect Act programs are fully implemented and able to reach families and individuals, we must advocate for incremental increases in appropriations by submitting Appropriation Requests to federal lawmakers.

This process benefits from national coordination and state-level experience, and you can work with FASD United to identify your state's needs and current capacity by completing the Appropriations Questionnaire created by FASD United. This state-level data will be used in tandem with national data and experience to submit appropriation requests by FASD United on your behalf. This means that you can focus on your state's needs and current capacity without needing to be an appropriations expert. Transparency and sustainability are key, and appropriation request language will be available for review.

Objectives

- Complete Appropriations Questionnaire provided by FASD United. This will include basic information about your organization, as well as ~3 sentences on the local need and impact.
- Contact and set meetings with federal legislators to discuss appropriations for FASD Respect Act programs
- Consider which State agencies to contact to discuss how FASD is currently addressed in your state.

FASD United Support

- A short form will be provided that will make it easy for you to highlight the local impact increased FASD funding would have.
- We will complete and submit the remaining sections of the Appropriation Requests. This includes precise request language, line-item references, and bill citations
- Talking points and presentations will be provided to support your meetings. FASD United can also attend any virtual meetings scheduled.



Appropriations Checklist



Complete Appropriation Questionnaire provided by FASD United



Contact your Senators and Representative to request meetings to discuss FASD appropriations



Meet with your Senators and Representative, especially if they are accepting Appropriation Requests or sit on an Appropriation Committee



Determine which State agencies to contact and begin outreach to discuss the FASD Respect Act programs and how the state already addresses FASD