

## ***Interested in becoming part of the Legislative Advocacy Team?***

The Legislative Advocacy Team is comprised of 7-10 Iowa United Methodists who relate to the activities of the legislative and executive branches of Iowa government.

Persons interested in joining the team may offer their services to the team leader<sup>1</sup> or to the chair<sup>2</sup> of the Board of Church and Society. The board will identify persons to join the team or to fill vacancies on the team and will forward the nominees to the bishop (or the bishop's designee). The Bishop's Office will select the team membership on a yearly basis.



If you are interested in being nominated, please follow these three steps:

1. Read about the work of the Iowa United Methodist Legislative Advocates at the State Capitol at <https://www.iaumc.org/advocacy>.
2. Review and consent to these expectations of volunteers:
  - a. Have an understanding of, and an appreciation for, the positions of the UMC found in the UM Social Principles, the UM Book of Resolutions, and the Iowa Conference Book of Resolutions.
  - b. Be willing to assume one of the following roles:
    - i. Register as a lobbyist representing the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church; be open to serving multiple years to establish relationships at the statehouse; be willing to be present at the statehouse at least once per week during the legislative session; be willing to take initiative to speak with legislators and/or to speak in subcommittee and committee meetings.
    - ii. Be a researcher; be willing and able, via internet as well as by other means, to research bills and to explore subjects being presented to the legislature.
    - iii. Be a communicator; help write position papers and email alerts; when available speak to church groups about advocacy.
    - iv. Be an administrative recorder; track progress of bills; prepare voter analysis reports
  - c. Be consultative with others on the Legislative Advocacy Team.
  - d. Be responsive to the leadership and assignments of **the team leader who**:
    - i. Reviews bills coming to the legislature and determines which ones are addressed by the UMC in the UM Social Principles, the UM Book of Resolutions, and the Iowa Conference Book of Resolutions
    - ii. Determines on which bills the team might make a declaration of support or opposition, and justifies his/her recommendation
    - iii. Consults with team members and assigns bills to individual volunteers to research and/or to follow through the legislative process
3. Apply to the team leader<sup>1</sup> or the chair<sup>2</sup> of the Board of Church and Society by supplying the following information:
  - a. Name, address, contact information (including mobile phone and email)?
  - b. Where is your church membership?
  - c. How are you involved in your local congregation?
  - d. How are you involved in your community?
  - e. What social or legislative issues are priorities for you?
  - f. How have you used or been guided by the positions of the UMC found in the UM Social Principles, the UM Book of Resolutions, and the Iowa Conference Book of Resolutions?
  - g. In what role(s) would you like to serve on the Legislative Advocacy Team?
  - h. Why would you like to serve on the Legislative Advocacy Team?

<sup>1</sup> Brian Carter - [briancar@dwx.com](mailto:briancar@dwx.com)

<sup>2</sup> Joshua Steward - [ministerjosh@gmail.com](mailto:ministerjosh@gmail.com)