

GLAO Representative to AAOPAC Phillip Beckwith DDS, MS February 16, 2024

Consider the National Advocacy Network Today!

The legislative process, and those who serve in Congress, is constantly changing. Whether we seek to support legislation or regulation that will improve patient care or to prevent anything that could impede the ability to treat patients, it is important to be engaged in the process and proactive. With this comes an emergent need to ensure that our interests are best represented at state and provincial legislatures and within state and provincial regulatory bodies. There has never been a better time to get involved at the ground level as an advocacy volunteer leader at the AAO – which is why we invite you to consider applying for the National Advocacy Network (NAN).

Within the NAN there are opportunities to lead the charge within your home component and across the United States and Canada to inspire real, ground-breaking change – both within your own community and across state and provincial lines to the U.S. Congress and Canadian Parliament.

An inaugural opportunity exists in the form of the newly established and award-winning National Advocacy Network. Two distinct roles are available to U.S. and Canadian members, and we invite you now to join the outstanding roster of changemakers who have stepped up to lead the charge in not just raising AAOPAC contributions to aid our federal legislative and regulatory work – but to protect and defend the specialty at home.

There are two positions at the state/province level.

- Component Advocacy Liaison (CAL): open to U.S. and Canadian membership
- AAOPAC Captain: open to US membership

Withing the GLAO, there exists continued opportunity to become involved. We would like to recognize and thank the following NAN volunteer leaders within our constituents:

- Ohio: Dr. Featheringham, AAOPAC Captain
- Michigan: Dr. Montecello , CAL-Dr. Bork, AAOPAC Captain
- Indiana: Dr. Hall, AAOPAC Captain
- **Ontario:** Dr. Mariella Anderson, CAL-Dr. Jennifer Nguyen Canadian Association of Orthodontists (CAO) and Dental Specialty Organization Liaison

Where there is existing NAN leadership, we continue to recruit for members to join these powerful state teams. So, if you are interested in learning more about how to get involved and make a stand today but aren't sure what to do next, just let me or any of the above know and we will point you in the right direction. Or text "NAN" to 52886, or email Kim VanVeen, AAO Specialist of Grassroots and Digital Advocacy (kvanveen@aaortho.org).

"You're either at the table, or you're on the menu."

-Attributed to many

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Beckwith DDS, MS GLAO Representative to AAOPAC

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