

How to host a meeting

A large part of the problem with alternative medicine being in jeopardy in Washington is that many people do not know that there is a problem. They do not realize that Department of Health is using the overly broad Definition of Practice of Medicine statute to criminally prosecute independent unregulated practitioners and eliminate them. And this is only part of the story. Therefore it is very important to hold many meetings to make people aware of the issue and to motivate them to do something about it. Thank you for facilitating this important exchange of information! Please contact us if you have any questions.

TO DOs before the meeting:

1. Schedule the meeting for a month or so out and reserve a location.
2. Let us know so we can get the event info on www.healthfreedomwa.org and answer any questions you may have.
3. Get at least one other person to help you.
4. Print out literature from www.healthfreedomwa.org and familiarize yourself with details of the issue.
5. Documents to have on hand and discuss or refer to during the meeting are:
 - a. Problem - defines the problem.
 - b. 10 Reasons - explains the solution to legislators
 - c. List of Alternative medicine – examples of different forms of alternative medicine
 - d. Synopsis of Bills – summarizes the applicable laws
 - e. Full text of the RCWs. Download them from www.leg.wa.gov
 - f. History of problem – gives more background details
 - g. Script – suggested conversation with a legislator
 - h. Volunteer positions – gives suggestions of how you can help
6. The handouts for attendees could be: Brochure (this tells the message in a conversational tone and is easy to understand, asks for volunteers & donations, and has our contact information.) and the Bill of Rights (this defines the essence of health freedom).
7. Use the Petition as a sign-in form for the meeting. Afterward, send those forms to us to be added to the database. Of course if someone does not want to sign the Petition, have them sign in on another form.
8. Ask us to send you brochures.
9. Send PR/PSA of the event to friends, local newspapers, and radio stations at least 2 weeks before.
10. Plan your Agenda.

Sample Meeting AGENDA

- A. Read the inside of the Brochure to explain the problem, who we are talking about, and our solution.
- B. Tell a one minute story of why you are involved.
- C. Ask why people came to meeting. What experience have they had with alternative medicine? Why are they at the meeting?
- D. Discuss the History of the problem.
- E. Show the RCWs and explain their relevance.
- F. Make suggestions of what people can do.
 - ▶ Donate money, time & talents to Health Freedom Washington. (See Brochure and/or Volunteer Positions.)
 - ▶ Contact legislators: one state senator and two state representatives. (See www.leg.wa.gov to find out who they are. It's great to set up a personal meeting. But any letter, phone call, or email works as well. They want and NEED to hear from you. Educate them about the issue and ask for their support and for their sponsorship of the 2009 bills.
 - ▶ Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper.

▶Put displays out at local practitioners offices, stores, co-ops, libraries, etc. to include Bill of Rights, Brochures and/or Petitions to sign.