

Virginia Childhood Cancer Advocacy Day

Phone and Email Scripts

STEP 1: Call the legislatures assigned to you. If your time permits, please use the Targeted Legislature Directory to reach out to additional key legislatures identified.

Reminders:

- Be respectful and bipartisan in your outreach.
- Be sure to say thank the listener for their time and support.
- If you don't know the answer to a question, tell the person we'll follow up with an answer.

You can send questions to Amy Godkin at agodkin@askccf.org.

SENATOR SAMPLE CALL SCRIPT

When calling a Senator from the Targeted Legislature Directory, please use this script template:

“Hello,

I'm calling **Senator NAME** today to ask for their support of Senator Hanger's budget amendment for pediatric cancer research funding so we can ensure that children with cancer receive the support they deserve. Right now, children with cancer receive 0% of Virginia's cancer funding and that's not acceptable.

I'm very concerned about children with cancer in our state as they deserve better treatment outcomes. Most pediatric cancer drugs were developed decades ago. Funding research would open the door to improving survival rates and improving late effects from the disease and its treatment.

SHARE YOUR PERSONAL STORY

It doesn't have to be like this. Again, so many of these outcomes and late effects could be reduced with better treatment therapies.

This is why I would be most grateful for **Senator NAME**'s support of Senator Hanger's budget amendment. I will follow-up with an email so that you have this information on-hand. Thank you for your time and support of this urgent request.”

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DELEGATE SAMPLE CALL SCRIPT

When calling a Delegate from the Targeted Legislature Directory, please use this script template:

“Hello,
I'm calling **Delegate NAME** today to ask for their support of Delegate Carr's budget amendment for pediatric cancer research funding so we can ensure that children with cancer receive the support they deserve. Right now, children with cancer receive 0% of Virginia's cancer funding and that's not acceptable.

I'm very concerned about children with cancer in our state as they deserve better treatment outcomes. Most pediatric cancer drugs were developed decades ago. Funding research would open the door to improving survival rates and improving late effects from the disease and its treatment.

SHARE YOUR PERSONAL STORY

It doesn't have to be like this. Again, so many of these outcomes and late effects could be reduced with better treatment therapies.

This is why I would be most grateful for **Delegate NAME**'s support of Delegate Carr's budget amendment. I will follow-up with an email so that you have this information on-hand. Thank you for your time and support of this urgent request.”

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STEP 2: Email the legislatures assigned to you and include the Virginia Childhood Cancer Advocacy Fact Sheet. If your time permits, please use the Targeted Legislature Directory to reach out to additional key legislatures identified.

SENATOR SAMPLE EMAIL TEMPLATE

To: **Senator NAME**
From: **YOUR NAME**

Subject: Support for Childhood Cancer in VA

Dear **Senator NAME**,

Thank you for taking the time to read this urgent message. As a **INSERT YOUR ROLE (parent/survivor/volunteer/title)** for **PROVIDE CONTEXT (child/organization/workplace)**, I am writing to you today to ask for your support of childhood cancer patients and survivors in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Right now, children with cancer receive 0% of Virginia's cancer funding.

Senator Hanger has proposed a budget amendment that would provide pediatric cancer research funding to improve survival rates and better treatment outcomes. We desperately need you to be a voice for our kids and to make childhood cancer a state health priority.

Here are three reasons why this is so important:

1. More than 700 children are currently on active treatment for cancer in our state and there are almost 12,000 survivors. The need is great and growing each day.
2. Most pediatric cancer drugs were developed decades ago. Research is needed to improve outcomes and survival rates.
3. Two-thirds of childhood cancer survivors will have at least one permanent late effect, including cognitive effects such as slower processing speeds, short-term memory issues and trouble with executive functioning skills. So many of these late effects could be reduced with better treatment therapies.

OPTIONAL: SHARE YOUR PERSONAL STORY HERE

Help us make a difference – and make history! – by including kids with cancer in the state budget for the first time.

Thank you for your time,

Name
Role / Title

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DELEGATE SAMPLE EMAIL TEMPLATE

To: *Delegate NAME*

From: YOUR NAME

Subject: Support for Childhood Cancer in VA

Dear *Delegate NAME*,

Thank you for taking the time to read this urgent message. As a **INSERT YOUR ROLE (parent/survivor/volunteer/title) for PROVIDE CONTEXT (child/organization/workplace)**, I am writing to you today to ask for your support of childhood cancer patients and survivors in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Right now, children with cancer receive 0% of Virginia's cancer funding.

Delegate Carr has proposed a budget amendment that would provide pediatric cancer research funding to improve survival rates and better treatment outcomes. We desperately need you to be a voice for our kids and to make childhood cancer a state health priority.

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