



SEX EDUCATION POLICY ACTION COUNCIL (SEPAC) Building a Movement for Comprehensive Sex Ed

Advancing sexuality education public policy is more important now than ever. At a time when reproductive health care and LGBTQ communities are under increasing attack, sex education offers a comprehensive policy solution to teach young people about bodily autonomy, consent, reproductive decision-making, healthy relationships, and LGBTQ tolerance and inclusion.

The **Sex Education Policy Action Council (SEPAC)** is a movement of state and local advocates committed to and actively working to advance comprehensive sex education policy for their communities.

Led by SIECUS, SEPAC will convene organizations, statewide coalitions, state agencies, and school districts **from 24 states** that are working to advance sex education that is comprehensive. SEPAC members will learn invaluable advocacy skills, receive federal policy and legislative updates, network with colleague organizations from around the nation, and foster a close working relationship with SIECUS, which will act as an advocacy, issue campaign, and strategic policy resource. SEPAC is expected to grow to include members in all fifty states, the District of Columbia and eventually the US territories. These relationships will provide SIECUS with an invaluable opportunity to monitor and affect state legislation. And, as Congress often listens best to their own constituents, advocacy for comprehensive sexuality education will have increased strength coming from the diverse voices of SEPAC members.

Program Goals

Members of SEPAC will help shape a common narrative to advance comprehensive sex education policy, engage with policymakers seeking to advance and pass sex education legislation, educate federal congressional members on the need for comprehensive sex education, and create a model for expanding comprehensive sex education policy across the country.

SEPAC members will:

- Advance public support for and increase adoption of sex education policies in federal, state, and local governments across the country
- Grow state and federal cross-movement coalition partnerships supporting CSE policies
- Increase the number of elected officials and policy-makers working to advance CSE
- Build the capacity for state and local activists to advocate for CSE public policy by sharing important best practices, challenges and resources, model CSE legislation

Program Objectives: Year 1

- **Launch** Open application process, selecting groups well-positioned to be leaders in their states or localities for advancing comprehensive sex education policy. Members will have demonstrated leadership in progressive policy stances, familiarity with advocacy campaigns, and prior experience advocating for sex education.
- **Learn** SIECUS will host a series of monthly webinars and member-only peer-learning training sessions to develop SEPAC member skills and advocacy tools.
 - June 2019: Nonprofit Advocacy 101 Webinar with Alliance For Justice
 - July 2019: State Legislative Landscape – 2019 and into the Future
 - August 2019: Topic TBD, co-sponsored with GLSEN
- **Convene** November 12-13, 2019: SIECUS will convene in Washington, DC with SEPAC members to learn about the national and state policy landscape; identify entry points for making change happen at the local and school district level; and share best practices for movement building in states and communities for sex education.

Day 2 will include a half-day of Congressional Hill visits to educate lawmakers on CSE policies and programs.
- **Act** Draft an action plan based on the findings developed from the one-day meeting. This action plan will be used to inform future SEPAC strategies at the federal, state, and local levels. In addition, SIECUS will lead creation and dissemination of any shared advocacy resources, tools, and policy messaging resources to support SEPAC member activities.
- **Assess** SIECUS will conduct an assessment of the day and a half meeting as well as the monthly training activities. We will use these results to inform any follow-up support activities that SIECUS could provide to participants. In addition, we will conduct a brief online assessment with the meeting participants three months after the meeting to assess any changes in practice.



2019 SEPAC MEMBERS

Alabama

Alabama Sexual Health Coalition
ACLU Alabama
Planned Parenthood Southeast
URGE
Medical Advocacy and Outreach
AIDS Alabama
Magic City Wellness Center
YellowHammer Fund
Birmingham AIDS Outreach

Arizona

Planned Parenthood Arizona

California

ACLU of Northern California
Los Angeles Unified School District
San Diego Unified School District
Planned Parenthood California Central Coast /
Planned Parenthood California Heads of Education
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of CA

Colorado

Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains

Georgia

Planned Parenthood Southeast

Kansas

Let's Talk, Inc.

Kentucky

Sexual Health Promotion Lab

Michigan

Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual
Health (MOASH)

Minnesota

Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota,
South Dakota (Planned Parenthood MNNDSD)
Healthy Youth Development-Prevention Research
Center, University of Minnesota

Mississippi

Planned Parenthood Southeast

Missouri

Teen Pregnancy & Prevention Partnership

Nevada

Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains

New Mexico

Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains

New York

Planned Parenthood Empire Acts
New York Department of Health & Mental Hygiene
Stop the Shaming
Peer Health Exchange
Girls Inc. of Long Island
Children's Aid

North Carolina

Equality North Carolina

North Dakota

Planned Parenthood MNNDSD
North Dakota's Women's Network

Oregon

Oregon Youth Sexual Health Partnership
Girls Inc. of the Pacific Northwest
Portland Public Schools

South Dakota

Planned Parenthood MNNDSD

Tennessee

Girls Inc. of Chattanooga
Women's Fund of Greater Chattanooga

Texas

Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Utah

Planned Parenthood Association of Utah

Virginia

Virginia League of Planned Parenthood
Virginia Coalition of Sex Ed Reform (VACSER)

Washington

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Girls Inc. of the Pacific Northwest

Wyoming

Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains