

## Getting Started as a New Congregational Advocate

Welcome and thank you for being a congregational advocate! If you are new to the role, you might be wondering how to get started.

The following checklist will give you some suggested first-steps. In addition, you have a great resource, your director of congregational advocates, who will be contacting you to help you learn more about your new role.



### 1. Access resources to better understand your role

- Go to [www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com) > Volunteer Leader Resources > [For Congregational Advocates](#):
  - Review the “New Volunteer Leader Orientation” and “Role-specific training” webinars. *Tip: If you have limited Internet access, a CD of these webinars (#25874CD) is available to order from [Congregational Volunteer Administration](#) > Order Congregation Supplies.*
  - Become familiar with the other resources available to you on this page.
  - Read the most current issue of Congregational Advocate News. *Tip: Watch your email for the arrival of this monthly newsletter.*
  - View the Thrivent Financial member listing for your congregation, and the current leadership board for your chapter. *Tip: You can view these items from [Congregational Volunteer Administration](#).*
- Contact your director of congregational advocates for specific or immediate questions.
- Connect with your local chapter by attending the next chapter meeting.

### 2. Connect with others to identify opportunities

- Contact the Thrivent Financial representative(s) who serves your congregation (if you have one) to introduce yourself and build or strengthen your relationship.
- Schedule a time to meet with one or two leaders in your congregation (e.g., pastor; council member) to learn about your congregation's key needs and ministries. Make sure to invite your financial representative. Here is a [conversation guide](#) with some questions you might find helpful as you meet with these individuals.
- Contact other congregational advocates in your area to share ideas and best practices, or partner on projects. *Tip: Ask your director of congregational advocates for a listing of all congregational advocates in your chapter.*

### 3. Take action

- Work with your financial representative and/or chapter to identify one activity you will advocate for and promote within your congregation (based upon the needs and ministries of the congregation). **Ideas:** *Social event with all Thrivent Financial members; educational workshop to help kids and teens learn about money; fund-raising activity for food pantry.*

**Have questions?** Contact your director of congregational advocates, financial representative, Lutheran Engagement Team or the Member Connection Center at 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and say "fraternal," or send an email to [fraternal@thrivent.com](mailto:fraternal@thrivent.com).