

Advocacy 101



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Background and History - Ty Vanlerberghe

Robotics Experience

- Grand Valley State University
- Alumni - FRC 1718, The Fighting Pi
- 2022 *FIRST* Dean's List Award Finalist
- 4-year Impact/Chairman's Award Presenter

Advocacy Experience

- Started in Advocacy in 2019
- Conference Coordinator - Michigan Advocacy Conference
- Staff Member - Student Association for STEM Advocacy
- 3-time ^{AAO} National Advocacy Conference Attendee



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Slide 2

AAO fix

Arjit Agarwal, 2024-06-22T18:15:32.038

Background and History - Arjit Agarwal

Robotics Experience

- Freshman at University of Michigan - Economics
- 5 years in *FIRST*
- Alumni - FRC 245, AdamBots
 - Team Captain
 - 3-year Impact/Chairman's Award Presenter
- 2023 *FIRST* Dean's List Finalist

Advocacy Experience

- Started in Advocacy at NAC 2022
- 2-time NAC Attendee
- Writer for the SASA Newsletter
- SASA State Advocacy Coordinator
- Staff Member - Student Association for STEM Advocacy



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Already an Advocate -

Examples

- Staying out/extending your curfew
- Going on trips with friends
- Negotiating grades with teachers/professors



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You Can Advocate for Anything

Examples

- State funding for robotics programs
- High schools should require CTE experiences
- Every student should be exposed to STEM before graduation

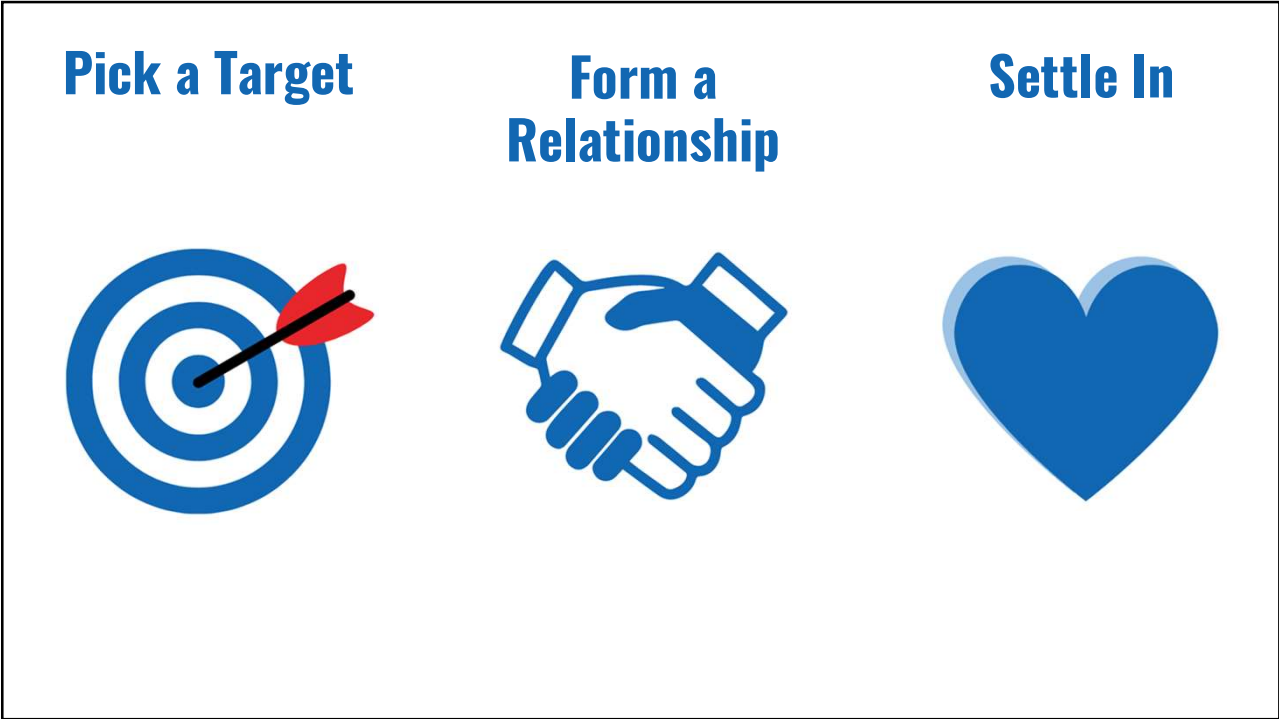


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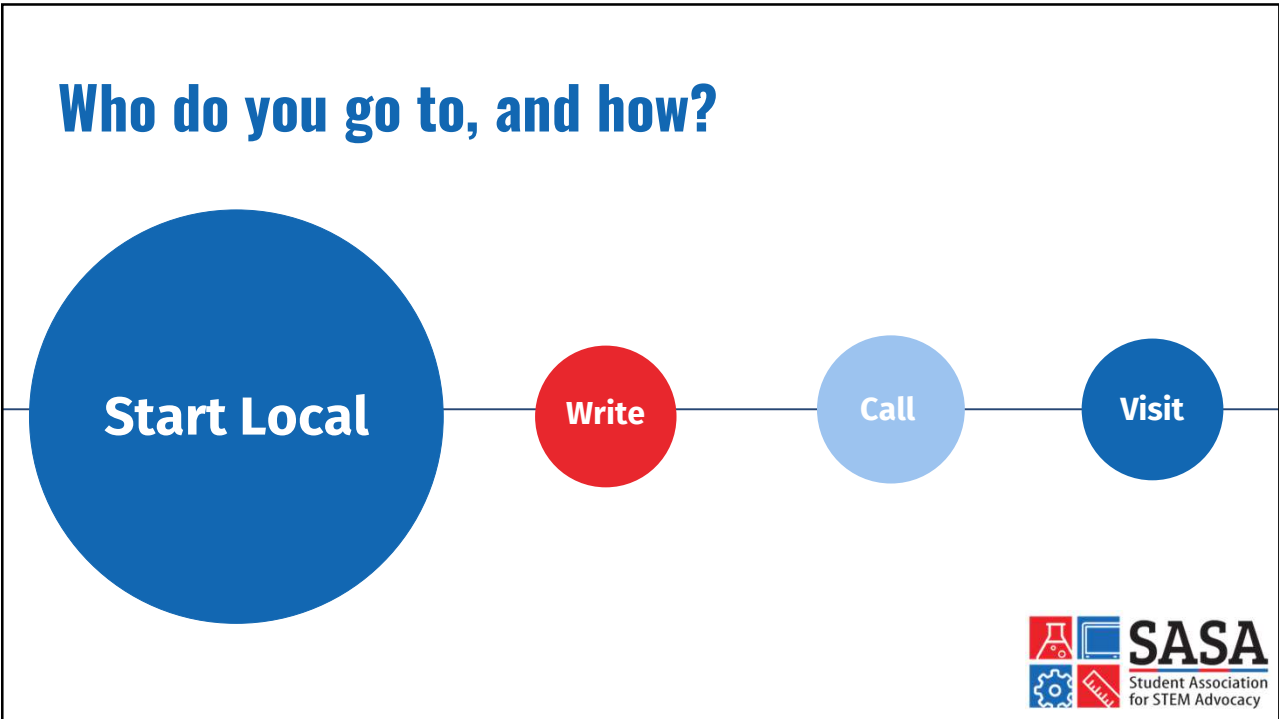
How and where do I start?



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7



8

. DO .
WHAT YOU CAN
WHERE YOU ARE
WITH WHAT
YOU HAVE
TEDDY ROOSEVELT



9

Once again, it's all about...

Relationships, Relationships, Relationships



10

To affect the process, you have to know the process!



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Who do you need to know?

Federal Decision-Makers

- **Executive Branch**
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Executive leaders (Secretaries of Executive Departments, Policy Advisors, etc.)
- **Legislative Branch**
 - Congress
 - House and Senate
 - Speaker of the House, majority/minority leaders, whips, committee chairs



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Questions

Staff@mysasa.org

