


<b>Policy Name:</b>	<b>ADVOCACY</b>		
<b>Policy Number:</b>	<b>GOV-412/ORG-107</b>	<b>Formerly</b>	<b>RM-1</b>
 West Elgin Community Health Centre	<b>Creation Date:</b> <b>October 2007</b>	<b>Reviewed Date:</b> <b>June 2021</b>	<b>Approved by:</b> <b>Board of Directors</b>

## POLICY STATEMENT

The staff/management of the West Elgin Community Health Centre (the “Centre”) and the Directors of the Board (the “Board”) are encouraged to advocate on any matter that is approved by the Centre. Staff members will discuss time commitments and impact on workload for advocacy activities with their Director/Coordinator.

## ADVOCACY FOR CLIENTS/ INDIVIDUALS

In accordance with the Centre’s values, staff are encouraged to advocate on behalf of their clients. If a staff member has any question about the advocacy being proposed, they must bring the issue to their Director/Coordinator who may seek guidance from the Executive Director. In the event that a Board Director becomes aware of an individual requiring advocacy, the individual must be redirected to contact the Centre.

## ADVOCACY FOR SYSTEM CHANGE

Staff and Directors are encouraged to support advocacy issues led by the Alliance for Healthier Communities and the Ontario Community Support Association.

## LOCAL/REGIONAL

Advocacy for local/regional issues must be brought forward to your Director/Coordinator for consideration. The Director/Coordinator may seek guidance from the Senior Leadership Team.

## ADVOCACY- OUTSIDE OF YOUR EMPLOYMENT/ROLE

If a Staff/Director wishes to engage in public advocacy outside of their role they may do so on their own time and must clearly identify that they are not acting on behalf of, or representing, the Centre. If uncertain, contact your Director/Coordinator for further direction.

Due to the Board Directors fiduciary obligations to the Centre, no Board Director will take a personal stand on any issue that differs from that which the Board has agreed to take on behalf of the Centre unless otherwise authorized by the Board.