

Guide for Stage IV Stampede State Captains/Co-Captains

In preparation for METAvivor's 2022 virtual Stampede which will be held in October this year, Captains in each state will help coordinate outreach to their states' US Representatives and Senators. You will be receiving a list of people who have registered in your state as well as an information packet sent to everybody who registers for the Stampede. Here are some organizing suggestions.

Meet with other people from your state by Zoom, telephone, Facetime, or email. Make certain that everyone has registered for the Stampede with Metavivor. In the meeting discuss the following:

1. Who has been on previous Stampedes or has other advocacy experience? Ask people to share some of those experiences
2. Find out what level of participation each person is interested in. Some people may want to join on a group call to legislators but might be uncomfortable saying anything. Others may want to take a more active role or try to connect one-on-one with their elected officials
3. Encourage people to view the webinars, reenactment, and legislative fact sheet on the Metavivor Web Site, especially if they want to take an active role on the virtual Congressional visits. They can also take advantage of our new Advocacy Tool Kit which is also on the web site.
4. Find out what kind of contact each person wants to make with their legislators, e.g. participation in a group call, individual calls, emails, etc.
5. For people in the group wishing to participate in group calls to legislators, discuss how you will organize the call. Some options include:

- Designate one person, perhaps with past experience participating in the Stampede, to act as primary presenter in the meetings with each legislator and the remainder of the team adds to this presentation.
- Rotate the role of primary presenter for each visit to different legislators.
- Have a different person in charge of presenting each different issue.

These are only examples. You do not have to limit yourselves to them. However you organize the meeting, it is important that each person who wants to has time to tell his or her story.

6. We encourage you to organize practice Congressional visits, either via Zoom or in-person (small group (six or less) meetings). Congressional staffers typically have a time limit for their meetings, so it is important that participants prepare ahead of time in order to limit their presentations to a few minutes. Here are a few suggestions for participants to prepare for a practice session as well as the actual Congressional visit:

- Jot down four or five main points that you want to make in your presentation.
- Have the Stampede web page, and especially the legislative fact sheet, in front of you during the practice and actual Congressional visits to refer, for example, to the names and bill numbers of particular bills.
- Encourage everyone to listen to the Congressional Reenactment (*insert link*) before conducting their role play of a Congressional meeting.

7. Share these webinar resources:

Webinars: (<https://www.metavivor.org/take-action/stage-iv-stampede/>)

Stage IV Stampede Registration:

(<https://donate.metavivor.org/StageIVStampede>)

Advocacy Toolkit

(https://metavivor.org/_media/uploads/files/downloads/

[Metavivor_Advocacy_Toolkit_2022.docx](#))

If you have any questions or problems, please email the Advocacy Team at advocacy@metavivor.org.