Student Parent Advocacy Alliance

Purpose
The Student Parent Advocacy Alliance will:
1. Expand Generation Hope’s current advocacy efforts and engage student parents from across the country throughout the year.
2. Partner with the Policy & Research team to develop a comprehensive annual Policy Agenda that best serves student parents regionally and nationally.
3. Provide feedback and suggestions for advocacy efforts, policy priorities, and events.
4. Serve as an opportunity for student parents to gain new skills in their advocacy, storytelling, and leadership.

Responsibilities
1. Meet with the Policy & Research team monthly to participate in a skill-building workshop, touch base on the advocacy events calendar, and provide feedback on planned policy events. Members may be required to meet in addition to these monthly meetings to discuss strategies if policies pertaining to student parent success are being considered at a federal or regional level.
2. Engage fellow student parents and recommend student parents to participate in our policy events, panel discussions, reports, etc.
3. Participate in at least two approved policy and advocacy events or opportunities related to student parent work and Generation Hope’s Policy Priorities that are shared by the Generation Hope team or other organizations. Advocacy and policy events such as blog or op-ed writing, lobby day advocacy, panel discussions, conference presentations, testimony writing, etc. can be counted as part of your work.
   a. Any activity you would like to be counted towards your goal, must receive approval from Yoslin Amaya Hernandez, Student Advocacy Coordinator.
4. Help create a positive, welcoming, and affirming environment for other student parents involved in this work.
5. Outgoing alliance members will be required to assist in onboarding new members, participating in the initial orientation and serving as a mentor to a new alliance member for the first month.

6. Alliance members will be required to travel from April 9-11, 2025, to attend Generation Hope’s national conference, HOPE 2025, in National Harbor, Maryland. As you play a vital role in making the conference a success, your travel costs and registration fees will be covered. Meals during the conference and transportation costs to and from the airport will be provided.

Composition and Commitment

- The Student Parent Advocacy Alliance will consist of nine current or recently graduated student parents who commit to serving one term (8 months, September 2024-April 2025) on the Alliance and cannot renew their term. After their term has concluded, they will be part of the SPAA alumni, called on to participate in advocacy events and provide ongoing partnership and support in the development of Generation Hope’s Policy Agenda.

- The Student Parent Advocacy Alliance will be composed of at least two current Generation Hope Scholars (one from D.C. and NOLA), one Generation Hope Student Parent Fellow (former), one Generation Hope Scholar Alum, and five Student Parents from areas in which Generation Hope is NOT currently operating their Scholar Program.

- Alliance members should ideally be current student parents or student parents who graduated within the last year.

- The Student Advocacy Coordinator will convene student parent advocacy alliance meetings. In partnership with the Family Programming, Learning & Innovation, and Policy & Research staff, the Coordinator will manage the application process for student parents interested in joining the alliance.

- The Student Parent Advocacy Alliance members will commit to 3 hours of work each month. This will include meeting times, reviewing event outlines, and attending 1-hour monthly workshops. The workshops are mandatory, and the dates for each workshop are listed below. Workshops are typically held in the afternoon/evenings. More than two missed workshops will result in dismissal from the program, and no further compensation will be made.

Benefits for Participants

- Compensation for time and work.
Student Parents serving on the alliance will be compensated for their time and will be provided a stipend of $1,000.00. This is to compensate you for your time with us and participation in your mandatory advocacy activities.

- This is an opportunity to build community and form connections with other student parents and advocates in your area and nationwide. We hope to create an environment where members feel less alone in their student parent identity and gain access to a support system of peers.
- Opportunity to inform and shape Generation Hope’s policy and advocacy work.
- This could be a great resume builder! Participants will learn a variety of skills, including but not limited to:
  - Grassroots advocacy and legislative advocacy
  - Policy analysis and advocacy
  - Strategic thinking and planning
  - Written and verbal communication
  - Community organizing
  - Event planning
  - Racial equity
  - Storytelling
- Media training and opportunities to share your story in the media

**How to Apply:**
To apply for the Generation Hope Student Parent Advocacy Alliance, applicants must:

1. Complete the application linked [here](#) by June 28, 2024 11:59 pm (your local time zone)
   a. Include a headshot (does not have to be professional but must show your face clearly and should be a photo of you by yourself) in your application.
2. If you are chosen as a member of the Student Parent Advocacy Alliance you will have three business days to respond, accepting or declining your participation. All emails regarding participation will be sent by the end of August.
   a. Note: Emails from Generation Hope may be delivered to spam folders. Please regularly check your spam folder for messages from Generation Hope.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 20, 2024</td>
<td>Application Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19, 2024</td>
<td>Application Closes at 11:59 pm <em>(your local time zone)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>End of August</td>
<td>Student Parent Advocacy Alliance Members Notified</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of August</td>
<td><em>Alliance members will be notified via email if they have been selected to participate in this cohort experience.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4, 2024</td>
<td>Student Parent Advocacy Alliance Members publicly announced on all social media channels</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4, 2024</td>
<td>Orientation (Virtual)</td>
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<td>October 8, 2024</td>
<td>Workshop 2 (Virtual)</td>
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<td>November 6, 2024</td>
<td>Workshop 3 (Virtual)</td>
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<td>December 15, 2024</td>
<td>Workshop 4 (Virtual)</td>
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<td>January 16, 2025</td>
<td>Workshop 5 (Virtual)</td>
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<td>February 11, 2025</td>
<td>Workshop 6 (Virtual)</td>
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<td>March 11, 2025</td>
<td>Workshop 7 (Virtual)</td>
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<td>April 9-11, 2025,</td>
<td>Workshop 8 at HOPE 25 Conference <em>(closed session)</em></td>
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<td><em>National Harbor, MD</em></td>
<td><em>Overnight travel is required and attendance is mandatory.</em></td>
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Topics for the workshops include the following, but are not limited to:

- Generation Hope & SPAA 101
- Elevator Pitch & Storytelling
- Public Policy 101
- Self-Advocacy
- National Student Parent Data
- Media Training