

Make your voice heard.



NAWBO Chicago Advocacy Committee

NAWBO's commitment to Advocacy runs deep, and it is what sets us apart from other women's business organizations.

The NAWBO Chicago Advocacy Committee seeks to support local, state and federal advocacy efforts on behalf of our members and offers opportunities to learn about local issues, policies and candidates that affect our professional lives.

The committee works alongside NAWBO National Advocacy and the Small Business Advisory Council (SBAC) to stay informed on the current conversations around small business policy. Results from our chapter's annual Advocacy Survey are also central to the committee's efforts.

Bipartisan Advocacy

NAWBO members are diverse in many ways, from the size of their business to the sector they serve in, to their stage of business development and personal politics. The NAWBO Advocacy agenda embodies the ever-present need to create both the avenue and environment to build sustainable women-owned businesses.

NAWBO advocates on behalf of women business owners, regardless of political affiliation, encouraging and supporting bipartisan legislation focused on building and strengthening a sustainable business economy. For NAWBO to endorse specific legislation, the legislation must go through a litmus test. NAWBO endorses bipartisan legislation that builds coalitions, is backed up by data and advances the business community.

LOCAL ADVOCACY PARTNER: Small Business Advocacy Council

The SBAC believes the success of small businesses is a critical component of local communities and the nation's economy. It has spent the last decade alongside small business owners fighting for reasonable policies that foster a healthier small business environment—economically, socially and culturally. The SBAC's non-partisan approach continues to shape local, state, and federal small business legislation.



Get Involved!



Please join us on Zoom the first Fridays of each month from 11 am – 12 pm to learn about current issues and policy work impacting our professional lives, and what you can do to help effect change. **Together we can make a difference!**

NAWBO Chicago Advocacy Subcommittees

Chapter Advocates (all members)

Join our monthly meetings to learn about and influence upcoming events and gain information about local and national policy efforts and action items.

- + Learn what legislation is being drafted on a local, state and national level
- + Share calls-to-action with your network
- + Engage with lawmakers on behalf of NAWBO Chicago

Advocacy Partner Liaisons

NAWBO Chicago currently serves Chicagoland, southeast Wisconsin and northwest Indiana, and our goal is to grow the Advocacy Committee so that its members are engaging across all three territories.

- + Form and maintain alliances with other organizations advocating for small and women owned businesses to effect change
- + Identify potential partners and forge synchronistic alliances
- + Attend partner meetings, take notes, network, learn and report to the committee

Annual Advocacy Agenda

Using the NAWBO National Agenda as the base, add any business challenges our members and advocacy partners are facing to focus our agenda to effect change at a local and state level.

Advocacy Survey Coordinators

Our biennial NAWBO Chicago Advocacy Survey enables us to tap into business challenges our members are facing for which legislation might be able to help.

Lead the committee's efforts in generating, distributing, learning from and educating our membership and the business and governmental communities on issues that matter to our members.

Event Coordinators

Develop meaningful virtual and in-person advocacy events that bring NAWBO members, our advocacy partners and those in power together for an open dialogue, with the goal of educating and effecting change.

Communications & Promotion Coordinators

Work with NAWBO Chicago management to engage, educate and inform our members!

- + Create content to be shared in the chapter newsletter and on our social channels
- + Promote committee events
- + Develop marketing materials

“The world of the future is in our making. Tomorrow is now.”

Eleanor Roosevelt, 1963
Fierce activist and advocate for women's rights

Make a Difference for Women Business Owners.

For more information, to visit a virtual meeting, or to join our committee, please contact our committee co-chairs:

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