# Allies Advocacy Scripts for Families Affected by Addiction

You are welcome to use these templates as is- or make it your own!

\*Please only share your personal experience if you are comfortable. If you prefer not to reference your family's experience when writing or calling, that's completely fine! We have a different outline here: <u>Allies Advocacy Toolkit</u>

# Sample phone script for calling representatives:

Hi, my name is [Your Name], and I'm a constituent from [Your Location].

My family has been deeply impacted by addiction, and I'm calling to ask [Representative's Name] to support funding for Allies in Recovery, a program that has been a lifeline for my family and many others.

Allies in Recovery gave me the tools to guide my loved one toward recovery. Through this program, we learned so much: how to communicate better, set boundaries, reinforce positive change, and offer treatment resources at the right time. This guidance has made a real difference—not just for my loved one, but for our entire family. [Or briefly share your experience.]

Now, Allies in Recovery is at risk of shutting down due to government funding cuts. Without resources like this, families like mine are left without direction, unsure of how to help our loved ones. Please act to secure funding so that families like mine can continue to access this life-changing support.

Can I count on [Representative's Name] to explore funding options for Allies in Recovery? I'm happy to provide more details or send additional information.

Thank you for your time.

# Sample Email/Contact Form Template (shorter version)

#### Suggested subject lines:

Urgent Support Needed for Families Facing Addiction (government audience)

Opportunity to Support Families Affected by Addiction (nongovernment audience)

#### Email:

I'm reaching out as someone *[as a concerned constituent]* whose family has been deeply impacted by addiction. Allies in Recovery, a program that has given me the tools to guide my loved one toward recovery, is at risk of closing after losing its government funding.

Allies in Recovery teaches the evidence-based CRAFT approach for training families like mine in strategies to support our loved one's recovery. Allies gave us the skills and understanding we needed to truly help our loved one, changing the dynamic in our family.

Through this online program, we learned how to communicate more effectively, set healthy boundaries, reinforce positive change, and offer treatment resources at the right time. The guidance we received has made a real difference, not just for our loved one, but for all of us. Without resources like Allies, families like mine are left feeling helpless, not knowing where to turn or how to truly help.

[Or briefly share your experience.]

## [If contacting a government representative]

Please act to secure funding for this vital resource. By supporting Allies in Recovery, you will be helping families like mine regain hope for our loved ones and ourselves.

I've attached a fact sheet and press release with more details.

## [If contacting a non-government organization]

Would your organization be open to a conversation about funding, partnering, or licensing Allies in Recovery? Your support could ensure that families like mine continue to access this life-changing resource.

I've attached a fact sheet and press release with more details.

Sincerely, [Your Name] [Optional: Your Contact Information]

Allies in Recovery support@alliesinrecovery.net alliesinrecovery.net

# Sample Email/Contact Form Template (longer version)

Suggested subject line: Urgent Support Needed for Families Facing Addiction

I'm a concerned family member/constituent with a loved one with substance use disorder (SUD). I'm reaching out because an incredible resource I've been using to help me, my family, and our loved one is at risk of closure after losing its government funding.

That resource is **Allies in Recovery**, an incredibly effective and low-cost program that has supported thousands of families like mine for 20 years. Allies provides families with the skills and strategies we need to help a loved one heal from SUD—yet, due to federal and state funding cuts, this vital program is in jeopardy. We urgently need funding to keep Allies available for families like mine.

I cannot overstate how much Allies has helped us. After years of struggling with nowhere to turn, this program was the only thing that made a difference. Allies taught us how to navigate our loved one's addiction in a way that moved all of us toward lasting recovery.

Through Allies, we learned:

- How to communicate with positive reinforcement
- When to step back and allow natural consequences
- How to prepare and offer treatment resources at the right time

This program changed the dynamic in our family and gave us the tools to truly support our loved one.

Too often, families are overlooked in the fight against addiction. But research and Allies success stories show that **families—when trained and supported— can truly help turn around dire situations involving a loved one with SUD.** 

Peer-reviewed studies confirm this: **Families trained in the CRAFT method (used by Allies) get their loved one into treatment 67% of the time and help them stay in recovery six times longer.** When families are equipped with the right tools, treatment outcomes improve, and long-term recovery becomes more attainable.

Training families like mine is a way to address the substance use crisis in this country in a sustained way. It's not a one-and-done quick fix. It's training families how to communicate with, to influence, and to have resources at the ready for a loved one with SUD.

## If contacting your representatives:

Please act to **secure funding for this essential program**. By supporting Allies in Recovery, you will help families like mine regain hope and provide the support our loved ones need to heal.

I've attached a fact sheet and press release with more details.

# *If contacting a non-government organization:*

Would your organization be open to a conversation about funding, partnering, or licensing Allies in Recovery? Your support could ensure that families like mine continue to access this life-changing resource.

I've attached a fact sheet and press release with more details.

Sincerely, (Your Name)

# **Contact Allies in Recovery:**

support@alliesinrecovery.net 413.387.9395