

## **Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan Legislator Talking Points**

### **Introduce Yourself!**

**Ask if the person you are meeting with knows about hemophilia and other bleeding disorders. If not, share basics on bleeding disorders:**

- Hemophilia, von Willebrand Disease, and other related bleeding disorders are rare, genetic conditions for which there are no known cures.
- Individuals often experience spontaneous and prolonged internal bleeding in joints and tissues.
- To effectively manage these disorders, patients require life-long infusions of a costly life-saving treatment called clotting factor.

### **Why you are there:**

- In the current political climate, changes to health care have been front and center and the bleeding disorders community is concerned for the future of health care.

**Explain how access to quality health care is vital for individuals with bleeding disorders:**

- Recent policies implemented with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act have greatly benefited the bleeding disorders community.
  - Coverage for preexisting conditions
  - Coverage for children up to age 26
  - No annual or lifetime maximums on benefits
  - Limits on out-of-pocket expenses
- On the state level, Children's Special Healthcare Services maintains access to care for many individuals impacted by a bleeding disorder by helping to cover the costs of treatment related to their disorder.
- Without CSHCS, the costs associated with treatment for bleeding disorders would be prohibitive to care.
- Explain how CSHCS has impacted your life, or the life of someone you know.

### **Before you leave:**

- Thank them for their time.