Record Attendance on Capitol Hill during AACN’s Spring Advocacy Day
On March 26, AACN’s Advocacy Day broke record attendance with 371 member deans, directors, chairs, and students visiting more than 120 Congressional offices on Capitol Hill. AACN members attending the Deans Annual Meeting and students participating in the Student Policy Summit convened in Washington, DC to educate federal legislators on programs and legislation impacting nursing education, research, and care delivery. See AACN’s Spring 2018 Congressional requests here.

AACN Grassroots Network members took action online, reiterating our on-the-ground efforts by sending 336 messages to federal legislators calling for support of AACN’s Congressional requests to sustain the health of our nation.

On Monday evening, the association’s Congressional reception provided an opportunity for AACN members to network with invited officials from the Administration and Congressional staff. Held in the James Madison Memorial Building of the Library of Congress, honorary guest Rear Admiral Sylvia Trent-Adams, PhD, RN, FAAN, Deputy Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, addressed the attendees. In discussing the profession’s integral role in improving public health, she emphatically stated, “I am PROUD to be a nurse!”

AACN Recognizes Andrea Hollingsworth with Advocate of the Year Award
AACN’s Government Affairs Committee (GAC) was honored to present the Advocate of the Year Award to Andrea Hollingsworth, PhD, RN, Dean and Professor at the Frances M. Maguire School of Nursing and Health Professions at Gwynedd Mercy University. Dr. Hollingsworth was recognized for her past membership on the GAC, her longstanding service as a State Grassroots Liaison, and her consistent commitment to creating opportunities for her faculty and students to advocate.

Dr. Robert Redfield Chosen as New CDC Director
Robert Redfield, MD has been selected to serve as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Dr. Redfield has been an advocate for public health for more than three decades, devoting himself to research and care for viral infections and diseases with a specification in HIV and AIDs. Before becoming CDC Director, he taught at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine and served as the director and founder of the Department of Retroviral Research working with the U.S. Military’s HIV Research Program. His contributions to the healthcare arena with his specialties in addiction treatment have made him well suited for the job, as the opioid epidemic continues to be a national priority.