

PEER HEALTH EXCHANGE

TEACHER RESOURCES: ADVOCACY

Encourage students to reflect on the following prompts individually or lead a large group discussion.

1. In what ways you are advocating for your needs during this time?
2. What are some things that could make it hard for someone to advocate for themselves?
3. What are ways you've seen someone advocate for someone else?
4. Have you seen people advocating for others or themselves on social media? If so, what were they advocating for? How did they advocate?
5. What are ways people can be advocating for themselves and others during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Guide students in thinking through what a young person could ask or do to get what they need in each of the following scenarios. Prompt them to think about agency (comfort/confidence in taking action) and access (resources available to take action).

- **Malik** lives in an apartment with his mom, dad, and sister. He is struggling to complete his school assignments from home because he has an unstable internet connection. What are some ways Malik could advocate for his needs?
- **Kiki** lives with their mom and three younger siblings. All of Kiki's friends have been doing group video chats but Kiki hasn't joined because they don't want their family to hear the conversation and they don't have their own bedroom. What are ways Kiki could advocate for privacy to talk to their friends?
- **Emilio** wants to join the science club but his mom already signed him up for the basketball team because his brother was on the team when he was in high school. The science club meetings are at the same time as practice. What can Emilio do to advocate for his interests?

