

Catherine Barankin has been the Executive Director of the California Coalition for Children's Safety and Health (CCCSH) since 1993. In that capacity she has been directly involved in the development of California's bicycle helmet safety law, Pool Safety Act, safety seat and booster seat laws, crib safety, Kids Plates funding program, and many other childhood safety policies. As CCCSH's Executive Director and as a professional legislative advocate for more than 40 years, she has also supported a wide range of well known organizations with their state policy and organizational structure issues including the California Collaboration for Youth, College Living Experience, California YMCAs, and many other children, youth and family organizations.

Not only is Catherine the lead administrator overseeing the California Coalition for Children's Safety and Health, she has a long history of supporting local and statewide coalition development programs focused on protecting children from child abuse, supporting children's safety, youth education opportunities and women's health and education programs.

Catherine is the founder of the advocacy and lobbying firm, Sacramento Advocacy, in business since 1977. She has received numerous awards and Governors' appointments to advisory councils and commissions due to her advocacy work. She is a frequent guest speaker at health and safety conferences and public policy workshops. She has also been a columnist for the Sacramento Bee.

In addition to representing the interests of the CCCSH before the Legislature and state agencies, Catherine conducts advocacy trainings, and along with her husband, Dr. Joseph Barankin, is the author of "The Advocacy Handbook".

Ms. Barankin's background prior to lobbying included serving as the Director of Public Relations for Southern California College, Assistant Editor of Forum 50 magazine and television news reporting for Channel 50 in Southern California. While attending Orange Coast College Catherine majored in speech and communications and was awarded the Bell Scroggins Award as the "Most Outstanding Woman Debater in the Nation". She was selected as the college's commencement speaker and was the recipient of the Alumni Hall of Fame award from her outstanding legislative accomplishments.

Catherine's volunteer activities include membership on the Board of Directors of the YMCA Youth and Government program, and on the Wing Institute Board. She also was a founding board member of the Sacramento Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), a program which represents dependent children in the juvenile court system.