NAMI Texas Conference Attendees Speak Their Minds
This year’s NAMI Texas statewide conference focused on educating, supporting and advocating for people with mental health conditions. Hot topics included recovering from trauma, supporting teens into young adulthood, and issue areas state legislators will be working on in next year’s session.

See the complete schedule and speaker bios.

NAMI Texas Awards Celebration Honor Mental Health Heroes

Congratulations to this year’s honorees!

- **Texas Senate Committee on Health and Human Services**, Charley H. Shannon Advocate for Justice Award
- **Dr. Mahesh Dave**, Mental Health Professional of the Year (NAMI Brazos Valley)
• **Keri Blakinger**, Betty Fulenwider Media Award (NAMI Greater Houston) *(shown here to the right of presenter Diane Banks)*
• **Andrew Horner**, Volunteer of the Year (NAMI Greater Corpus Christi)
• **Valerie Milburn**, Mark Korenek Consumer Quality of Life Award (NAMI Austin)
• **Doug Beach**, Jackie Shannon Enduring Volunteer Award (NAMI San Antonio)
• **Carolyn Hamilton**, Dedication to the Cause Award (NAMI Greater Houston)
• **Sandra Martinez**, Above and Beyond Award *(below with Holly Doggett)*

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**All Up in Our Feelings: Thank you from NAMI Texas!**

The awards ceremony, held as part of the annual conference in Austin, was led by honorary co-chairs **Angelique and Rep. Garnet F. Coleman** (Houston) and **Karen and Rep. Four Price** (Amarillo). Both legislators spoke about the hard work ahead on issues effecting Texans with mental conditions and NAMI Texas’s leading role in advocating for policies and funding that support mental health. Special thanks to:

• **Linda Cantu and Mary Ferree**, Celebration Chairs
• **Elise Banks**, Mistress of Ceremonies
• Featured Artist **“Just Louis” with Alexa Doggett** for performing an original song, “Go With the Feeling.” Listen to the song on Spotify!
• **NAMI Texas Board of Directors** for raffle donations

[View and download photos of the NAMI Texas Awards Celebration](#)
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