We are dedicated to improving the quality of life of all individuals living with mental illness and their families. We are a grassroots network providing support, education and advocacy.
Advocacy Opportunity: Apply to Join the NAMI Texas Public Policy Committee

If you are interested in serving on our Public Policy Committee for 2020-2021, please fill out this application and send it back to us by the end of January 2020. Reach out to policy.fellow@namitexas.org if you have any questions.

Advocacy Opportunity: Speak Up on Access to Medications

At the Texas Capitol during each legislative cycle, we collaborate and work closely with stakeholders and policy makers to advocate for policies that increase access to treatments and services, and raise awareness for mental health to reduce stigma. Even with the great progress we’ve made at the Texas State Capitol, we still have more to do and NEED YOUR HELP!

We are asking for feedback through this survey* to help draw attention to the challenges faced by so many Texans regarding medication access.

The power of individuals SPEAKING UP - a key learning from this legislative session. We saw first hand how the shared voice of advocates - much like you - from counties all across Texas can strengthen and support advocacy work being done at the Texas State Capitol. This shared voice was the difference maker for most bills that passed this session.

What worked?

- #SpeakUP - Legislators listened to their constituents, in their districts.
  - Gathered and voiced the shared stories of lived experience with policy makers and legislators - across Texas
  - Raised awareness and advocacy efforts in each district
  - Individual and small group constituent advocacy meetings with legislators at their district office
  - Offered policy solutions
  - Participated in legislative committee hearings

How did it work?

https://namitexas.dm.networkforgood.com/emails/paving-our-path-to-the-87th-legislative-session
Advocates built strong relationships in the local districts across Texas.

- Proactive-developed a solution to the issue and asked the legislator to support and sponsor legislation
- Continued well-organized advocacy action plan
- Active participants = STRONG VOICE
  - Commitment
  - Consistent
  - Courteous
  - Courageous

ACCESS to MEDICATION

Our legislative priorities for 2019 Texas’ 86th Legislative Session, included increased access to mental health medications.

Although we came close, we weren’t able to get across the finish line.

- We need to hear from YOU!
We are looking for stories to highlight and draw attention to this issue, which is impacting so many Texans.

Please complete this survey to tell us about you or your family members' access challenges with mental health medications and how it's impacted you/them!

CLICK on ANY SURVEY link to access the feedback form to share your story.

History of Patient Advocacy in Psychiatry: from Passive Patient to Active Participant

American Psychiatric Association has a long and close relationship with patient advocacy groups, especially on federal and state issues. “APA’s mission is to improve access to psychiatric care,” said APA CEO and Medical Director Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A. “We very much value our partnerships with patient advocacy groups. While APA is constantly working with legislators and policymakers on that goal, it is the patients and their families who can share their personal stories about the tragedies they have endured and the many obstacles they have encountered in obtaining care. Together, our voices are much stronger and can make a greater impact for creating a mentally healthy nation.”

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