Forward to Wellness: The 2021 NAMI Texas Annual Conference and Awards Celebration

November 12-13, 2021
VIRTUAL EVENT

*This event is free to attend and registration is now open!

Note: Recordings of Conference sessions will be available on a time-limited basis via the CVENT Virtual Attendee Hub. You must pre-register for the Conference to have access to the recordings.

2021 NAMI Texas Annual Conference

Who should attend: Family members, individuals affected by mental illness, supportive friends, providers, law enforcement, judges, and YOU!

What to expect: Keynote speakers, diverse workshops, networking opportunities, exhibits, understanding, and encouragement.

Why attend: Learn, share, and celebrate in a positive, stigma-free virtual space. Move Forward to Wellness with NAMI Texas.

When: The Conference begins Friday, November 12th at 2:00 pm CT and ends Saturday, November 13th at 5:00 pm CT.

Where: CVENT Virtual Attendee Hub. Through this virtual platform, attendees will be able to view live stream and video-on-demand sessions, visit virtual exhibitor booths, and interact with sponsors, exhibitors, presenters, and each other.

Bottom line: The NAMI Texas Annual Conference gathers hundreds of people whose lives have been affected by mental illness. We will be offering the 2021 Conference virtually, and leveraging it as a launchpad for what will be an in-person Conference in 2022. With keynote speakers, workshops, networking opportunities, and exhibits, the NAMI Texas Annual Conference offers attendees opportunities to learn, share, and build community.
**Submit A Workshop Proposal**

If you are interested in submitting a proposal to provide a virtual workshop at Forward to Wellness, please email your completed application form, including the requested attachments by July 31st, 2021 to executive.director@namitexas.org.

*If you're having trouble opening the workshop proposal application above, download it from here or just email executive.director@namitexas.org*

NAMI Texas is hosting Forward to Wellness on the CVENT Virtual Attendee Hub. Through this virtual platform, attendees are able to view live stream and video-on-demand sessions, visit virtual exhibitor booths, and interact with sponsors, exhibitors, presenters, and each other. Delivering a workshop virtually through this platform is user-friendly and intuitive.

*NAMI Texas is a nonprofit with a limited budget, and in general does not pay fees for presenters. Most presenters volunteer their time. If you are unable to volunteer, but wish to submit an application, please do so and provide specifics on fees.*

The Conference Planning Committee has identified some areas of special interest for topics for the 2021 Conference, but all submissions are welcome and encouraged:

- COVID-19 and Mental Health
- Recovery and Resilience
- Mental Health in K-12 Schools and Colleges/Universities
- Youth/Adolescent/Teen Mental Health
- Race and Mental Health
- Inequities and Disparities in Mental Health
- Prevention and Trauma
- Advocacy and Public Policy
- Peer and Family Support + Self-Care
- Digital Technologies / Telehealth
- Veterans, Active Duty Service Members, and Family Mental Health
- Mental Illness and the Criminal Legal System
- Wellness for Health Care Professionals and First Responders
- Suicide Prevention, Postvention, and Intervention
- Sharing Our Stories

**2021 NAMI Texas Awards Celebration**

Join us for our (virtual) Annual Awards Celebration on Friday, November 12th at 6:30 pm to honor our state's best mental health advocates, experts, providers, peers and volunteers!

Charley H. Shannon Advocate for Justice Award
Betty Fulenwider Media Award
Mental Health Professional of the Year Award
Volunteer of the Year Award
Youth Volunteer of the Year Award
Mark Korenek Peer Quality of Life Award
Jackie Shannon Enduring Volunteer
Dedication to the Cause Award

See past award recipients.

*Stay tuned to future newsletters for details on the awards nomination process!*
Conference Sponsorships

We also want to share with you an opportunity to align your brand with NAMI Texas, the only statewide, grassroots peer/family-based mental health organization. We are offering opportunities to sponsor **Forward to Wellness: The 2021 NAMI Texas Annual Conference and Awards Celebration.** [See attached Sponsorship Packet for details.](#)

NAMI Texas is dedicated to improving the quality of life of all individuals affected by mental illness. We have nearly 2,000 members involved with **27 local affiliates covering a diverse array of communities across the state of Texas.**

With your help, last year NAMI Texas improved life in Texas for people affected by mental illness:

- **Educating** - NAMI Texas offered no-cost training to 270 volunteers statewide so they could offer NAMI signature programs in their communities.
- **Supporting** - NAMI Texas facilitated access to online support groups for 7,220 individuals whose lives have been impacted by mental health conditions, and
- **Advocating** - NAMI Texas trained more than 100 individuals on how to tell their advocacy stories, and developed a **comprehensive policy platform for the 2021 legislative session.**

The sponsorship deadline is 10/1/2021. Please [review the Sponsorship Packet](#) and reply now to communicate your commitment. You may contact NAMI Texas to request an invoice or create a custom sponsorship: [executive.director@namitexas.org](mailto:executive.director@namitexas.org).

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Donate to support the Conference

NAMI Texas is not charging for participation in Forward to Wellness: The 2021 NAMI Texas Annual Conference and Awards Celebration. However, we welcome [donations](#) from those who want to support NAMI Texas in making the Conference available. Below are a few ways to support the Conference:

**Donate Online** [Here](#)
Even a small, one-time donation goes a long way in helping us carry our mission forward! Or, to be an ongoing supporter, join the [Circle of Hope](#)!

**Donate by Mail (write 'Conference' in memo line)**
Mail a check to:
NAMI Texas
P.O. Box 300817
Austin, Texas 78703

**Join the Circle of Hope**
The [Circle of Hope](#) is a passionate group of monthly givers who are on a mission to improve the quality of life of all individuals living with mental illness and their families. Your monthly gift helps NAMI Texas continue to bring hope and recovery through support, education, and advocacy to thousands of Texans living with mental illness and their families.

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Support Our Work

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NAMI TEXAS INC
PO Box 300817
Austin, TX 78703

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