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

Friday, November 12th - 2:00 to 8:00 pm CT
Saturday, November 13th - 9:30 am to 5:00 pm CT

VIRTUAL EVENT

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

Register for Forward to Wellness

Keynote Announcement: Alyse Ferguson

Alyse Ferguson is the Chief Attorney of the Collin County Mental Health Managed Counsel Program (MHMC). She is responsible for managing the specially trained attorneys, who represent indigent defendants diagnosed with
Ms. Ferguson presents on the topic of mental health and the Managed Counsel program in Collin County and she has been a guest presenter at National conferences as well various conferences around Texas. Ms. Ferguson has been honored for her work as the recipient of several awards including the 2019 International CIT Advocate of the Year, 2016 Texas CIT Award of Excellence, 2019 NAMI North Texas Advocate of the Year, and the 2016 Mental Health America Pam Blumenthal Memorial Award.

Ms. Ferguson brings a wealth of knowledge to her position as Chief Attorney, having previously worked in Community Supervision and with MHMR. While at MHMR, she served as a residential supervisor, case manager, and Director of Home and Community Services. She also handled crisis calls for intervention routinely responding to suicide calls and to requests from local hospitals and police departments for assistance with mental commitments and crisis intervention.

The MHMC program strives to assist persons with mental illness, who are now in the criminal justice system. Ms. Ferguson is an advocate for mental health services and works to further services for both the treatment and care of persons with mental illness.

We are greatly looking forward to hearing Ms. Ferguson’s insights and expertise on mental health in the context of the criminal justice system.

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NOMINATE YOUR MENTAL HEALTH HERO FOR AN AWARD

We are now accepting nominations from NAMI members for the 2021 NAMI Texas Awards! Nominate your mental health hero today, then 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

The deadline to submit an award nomination has been extended to 11:59 PM CT, Friday, September 17th.

See past award recipients.

Download Award Nomination Form

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.
Serving Humanity to Honor God
NAMI Texas thanks Methodist Healthcare Ministries for their Partner-level sponsorship of Forward to Wellness.

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.

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.

[Join Circle of Hope](#)

[Register for Forward to Wellness](#)