

Dr. Sheldon A. Jacobs
Nominated by NAMI Southern Nevada

Nominator Narrative

Trinh Dang

Executive Director, NAMI Southern Nevada

Strengths and attributes the NAMI Board has identified as high priority needs for the 2022-2023 NAMI Board of Directors; any strengths/attributes identified by the nominator are starred and in bold:

- **Diversity of age, race, ethnicity, language, experience and national geography****
- Knowledge of the philanthropic community and track record with donor cultivation
- Experience with a variety of revenue models and financial oversight and management
- Human capital management
- Legal and risk management
- **Criminal Justice****

In 250 words or less, please explain how the candidate will use their skills in the areas identified here and in the Open Letter to move the mission of the NAMI Board forward. If the candidate does not have any experience in these areas, please explain what qualities you feel that the candidate possesses that the NAMI Board of Directors should consider when making their recommendations to the membership.

Dr. Sheldon Jacobs is an African American male therapist from Nevada, a state that has consistently ranked 51 out of 51 in the nation when it comes to having a high prevalence of mental health challenges and lower access to care. Dr. Jacobs comes from a diverse background and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in the mental health space, including professional experience with the criminal justice system. Dr. Jacobs is the founder and chair for Increasing Diversity in Mental Health Coalition working to promote mental health awareness to marginalized communities. He is a huge advocate for individuals experiencing homelessness, in which he documents his experience undercover as a homeless man in his book "48." Dr. Jacobs currently works with the Clark County Department of Family Services working with youth involved in mental health court. He also has over 4 years of service on various committees with the Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services.

This individual has helped advance the NAMI mission in my community by...

leading the vision for bringing several mental health town halls and a health fair to underrepresented communities. He recruits diverse mental health professionals to speak as panelists. He is a well respected member of the community, and as a vocal mental health advocate, he speaks out often in the media on topics of mental health.

This individual works well in coordination with other leaders to accomplish goals as evidenced by...

the successful completion of our latest Wellness Wednesday Health Fair with over 80 physical, mental and spiritual wellness organizations. Dr. Jacobs also works with legislatures and sits on several other

nonprofit boards, connecting the organizations together for collaborative work and funding/policy opportunities.