

Ellen D. Ritz, RN
Nominated by NAMI New York State

Nominator Narrative

Wendy Burch

Executive Director, NAMI New York State

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.

Ellen has served as the Chair of NAMI-NYS By-laws and Policies & Procedures Committee for more than 3 years, and her expertise around non-profit management, specifically in regard to governance policies has been invaluable. She also serves on NAMI-NYS's Personnel Committee, providing oversight of staff management and recruitment. Ellen's work at the affiliate level encompasses oversight of fund development, especially in regard to the affiliate's annual fundraiser. She also served as a model ambassador for NAMI-NYS's Off the Mask fundraising event, raising more funds than the majority of models participating. Ellen is also a member of the NAMI-NYS Finance Committee, which provides oversight to the organization's budget and finances, which have remained healthy under her supervision.

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

overseeing the quality control and assurance of NAMI programs, served as a powerful advocate in the community and has capitalized on NAMI initiatives like NAMI Faithnet to further the NAMI mission and help people in the community.

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

her leadership of the NAMI-NYS Programs Committee, where the committee helped to increase the number of program leaders through additional trainings and developed a thorough program coordinators guide to assist affiliate's to manage NAMI programs.