

May 21, 2021

ATTN: NAMI Elections 2021
4301 Wilson Blvd., Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear NAMI Friends,

It is with great pride and pleasure that NAMI Mercer NJ nominates Jason Redd, JD, to serve on the NAMI National Board of Directors. Jay wholeheartedly embraces NAMI's mission. He believes that families and individuals affected by mental illness deserve to build lives of quality and respect, free of stigma and discrimination, and he makes his conviction abundantly clear in everything he says and does. Jay has been a member of NAMI Mercer NJ's Board of Trustees for 8 years, investing time, talent, and treasure in advancing our affiliate. Prior to relocating to Washington DC, Jay served as President in 2017-2018, helping the organization to successfully navigate some difficult challenges. He continued to serve on our Board as an active, engaged member while splitting his time between DC and NJ.

Professionally, Jay is a seasoned Government Affairs Specialist and Legislative Language Architect with Gibbons PC. He has a wealth of strategic public affairs experience on a wide range of policy issues. Jay assists organizations in telling their stories and building relationships with policy makers. He is a compelling public speaker. Having spent a decade in roles at the highest levels of New Jersey government and having lobbied on behalf of a broad client base, Jason possesses the unique combination of internal knowledge and external expertise critical for successfully navigating the challenging realm of politics. He is a problem-solver and advocate extraordinaire.

Jason has been widely recognized for his achievements in government affairs. In 2014, Jason was named "Young Alumni of the Year" by the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University, where he is an adjunct professor of public policy. He is extensively involved in pro bono and community service, including work on domestic violence and mental illness, and is a former President of the Trenton Board of Education.

Jay earned his bachelor's degree in Public Health from Rutgers University and holds an MCRP in Planning and Public Policy, also from Rutgers. He obtained his Juris Doctor in Law from Brigham Young University – J. Reuben Clark Law School.

To provide a little insight about Jay on a personal level, a few years ago he donned a bright orange tuxedo and proudly led thousands of walkers around the lake for NAMIWalks Mercer County. To fulfill a "fundraising promise," he wore that same bright orange tuxedo to the NJ Senate floor. For several years running, Jay was among our top five fundraisers for NAMIWalks Mercer.

One would have only to follow Jay on social media to recognize his open heartedness to the most vulnerable among us through his regular messages of hope, encouragement, and support. Two fun facts about Jay: he loves bacon and is the proud father of an energetic pup named Jack.

At a meeting of the NAMI Mercer Board on Thursday, May 20, 2021, the following resolution was adopted by universal acclamation:

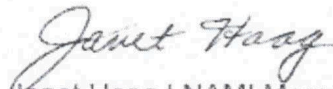
"The Board of Directors of NAMI Mercer resolves to nominate Jason Redd as its candidate for the 2021 NAMI National Board elections."

Our NAMI Alliance would be fortunate indeed to have Jay Redd on the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Pyle', written in a cursive style.

Tom Pyle | NAMI Mercer Board President.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet Haag', written in a cursive style.

Janet Haag | NAMI Mercer Executive Director