



NAMI Board of Directors Resolution on Non-Discrimination

November 19, 2016

WHEREAS NAMI represents the interests of all people who live with mental health conditions, regardless of age, gender, race or ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, language, sexual orientation or gender orientation;

WHEREAS people who live with mental health conditions frequently encounter attitudinal and policy barriers resulting from negative stereotypes and prejudice;

WHEREAS NAMI condemns all acts of prejudice and discrimination, whether by intent, ignorance, or insensitivity;

WHEREAS youth and adults who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ) experience higher rates of mental health conditions such as depression, and significantly higher rates of suicide attempts; and

WHEREAS NAMI is strongly committed to the principle that all individuals, including individuals with mental illness, should have equal access to education, employment and other life endeavors;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NAMI strongly opposes any policy or legislation that has the effect of impeding, limiting or denying access to medical, mental health or substance use care, employment, education, housing, public accommodations, or other life activities based on an individual's health or mental health status, disability, age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, language proficiency or sexual or gender orientation.