



NAMI Board of Directors Resolution Against LGBTQ Discrimination

January 24, 2017

WHEREAS NAMI represents the interests of all people who live with mental health conditions, regardless of health or mental health status, disability, age, race or ethnicity, national origin, language, religion, gender, gender identity (including gender expression) or sexual 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 health conditions, should have equal access to education, employment and other life endeavors;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NAMI strongly opposes any policy or legislation that, for people with mental health conditions, 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, race or ethnicity, national origin, language, religion, gender, gender identity (including gender expression) or sexual orientation.