

TO: NAMI Maryland Supporters, Experts, & Affiliate Leaders  
RE: NAMI Maryland 2018 Annual Conference Workshop Proposals  
DATE: June 2018

We have begun to put together the program for the 2018 Annual Conference, which will be held at the Sheppard Pratt Conference Center in Towson, MD on October 19-20, 2019. The two-day conference will be attended by a very diverse group of attendees. We will offer multiple concurrent workshops each day, and look for practical, skill-building or policy-oriented sessions tailored for specific audiences including mental health, substance use, criminal justice, health and social service provider staff; local NAMI and advocacy organization leaders, individuals with mental illness, family members, and interested community members from various networks (faith, employer, military, fraternal and academic settings.) Please note that at least 50% of attendees on Friday are mental health and health service providers receiving CEUs. The remaining 50% include individuals/families personally affected by mental illness, disability advocates, academics, and community members. Saturday has a smaller proportion of people seeking CEUs.

We welcome input on other possible workshop presentations. You may forward this to potential presenters.

**What we look for in NAMI Maryland Conference workshops:**

- Practical Information and Resources for:
  - a. community and health providers and employers and/or
  - b. for individuals with psychiatric disorders, their friends and relatives.Sample topics: accessing benefits, emerging and best practice treatment for specific disorders, benefits, supportive services, trauma-informed and/or recovery oriented and/or peer services, early interventions, handling specific situations (crises, disappearance, criminal justice system, etc.)
- Practical Information and Resources about and/or for “Special Populations” (veterans/military, minorities, children, young adults, newly symptomatic individuals, individuals for whom “traditional” services do not “work”, family members, and other underserved populations)
- Practical Information and Resources about and for providers and advocates working with ‘co-occurring’ issues: substance use, physical health, HIV/AIDS, developmental and behavioral disorders;
- Policy and Advocacy Topics: Health Care Reform, Substance Use/Behavioral Health Integration, specific policy topics
- Advocacy and outreach skills training

Some workshops in the past have provided both practical information as well as advocacy and policy information (i.e., what is available right now, and what should be...

Please use the attached form to submit your proposal. **Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis.**

Feel free to make as many copies of the form as needed. As well as the proposal, please submit supplementary information, such as articles, speaker biographies, etc. Please submit your form to: [connection@namimd.org](mailto:connection@namimd.org).

Recommendations to consider:

- Keep in mind that the more complete and detailed your proposal is, the easier it is for us to make a determination. This includes correct spelling of names, degrees, titles, addresses and telephone numbers of the workshop panelists. Much of the information we are requesting will be used in the program.
- Please let us know in which category or categories above you feel your workshop fits. We recommend including an explanation as to why you think the particular topic, handout materials, and/or speakers will provide useful information that a conference attendee can share within their own networks, including professional or social networks as well as affiliate members.
- Please also disclose if information regarding: health and/or mental health disparities co-occurring substance use, behavioral and physical health, diversity or multicultural issues will be addressed in the workshop in any way.

The number of presenters for any one workshop must be limited to a **maximum** of 4. We encourage you to include individuals living with a mental illness and family members as presenters. The length of workshops will be one hour. To provide a longer time frame, you may request 2 back to back workshops, but we cannot guarantee availability. You may apply for more than 1 workshop on different topics.

*NAMI Maryland does not pay honoraria, cover expenses of presenters, or reimburse for materials used in workshops. If you wish to attend other workshops at the conference, presenters must pay the conference registration fee. Limited scholarships are available for presenters who can demonstrate need, in which case registration fees are waived and lunch provided only on the day they present.*