



**NAMI New Jersey**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness



**Alert**  
Policy ★ Advocacy ★ Action

## ADVOCACY VICTORY

### You Did It!

Thanks to the support of the NAMI NJ community, we are proud to announce multiple advocacy victories. On June 30th, Governor Murphy signed into law **S311/A2036**, which establishes a behavioral health crisis system of care, along with key budget items: **\$12.8 million** for the 988 hotline and **\$16 million** to establish mobile crisis teams.

S311/A2036, in combination with budget funding, is a significant and sorely needed step toward NAMI NJ's vision of 988. As demand for 988 services grows, we will need to keep fighting for sustainable long-term funding and the availability of services across all 21 counties, while ensuring that processes are in place to appropriately route calls between 988 and 911 when needed.

Thank you to all who wrote to your legislators and the Governor and asked them to support a mental health response to mental health crisis. Your voice is powerful, and your lived experiences – as friends, family members, and consumers – should continue to shape the implementation of our behavioral health crisis system. **Please be on the lookout for opportunities to participate in the two public hearings mandated by the recently passed legislation.**

While July 16 is nearly a week away, implementation will be a gradual process. **If you or a loved one has an experience with the new 988 system and feel comfortable sharing, or learn of any 988 developments in your community, please reach out to Matt Camarda at [advocacy@naminj.org](mailto:advocacy@naminj.org).**

**National Alliance on Mental Illness of New Jersey (NAMI NJ)** is the State's largest grassroots organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of individuals and families affected by mental illness through education, support and advocacy. Local Affiliates in twenty-one counties provide self-help support and advocacy groups composed of individuals, family members, and friends affected by mental illness.

**Meredith Masin Blount**  
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