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May 12, 2017

Dear Affiliate Leader,

The NAMI-NYS Nomination and Election Committee is seeking candidates for the Board of Directors. At this time, we have five (5) Board positions for election in 2017. The election will take place at the Desmond Hotel in Albany at our annual Educational Conference on November 10-12, 2017. In order for a candidate to be considered, the following criteria must be met:

- All Board members are expected to be active advocates and participants on at least one committee. They should provide NAMI-NYS with the dedication, skills and resources to further its goals and objectives.
- To the greatest extent possible, the Board of Directors should represent the diversity of New York State as per
 - City and rural needs.
 - Multi-cultural, especially under-represented groups such as Native Americans, Asians and others.
- The Board of Directors shall consist of persons who have or have had mental illness in their family or persons who themselves may have had a mental illness. Family member includes guardian in fact or law.
- The Board of Directors shall consist of at least eleven (11) and not more than sixteen (16) elected members, one of whom shall be nominated and elected as a consumer member. Each elected member shall serve a term of three years, except for those elected to fill a vacancy. At each annual meeting of the members, five regular directors and, every three years, the one consumer director shall be elected to fill the vacancies of directors whose terms expire at the end of that meeting, and they shall hold office until the third succeeding annual election.
- Each member may submit the name(s) of any member(s) of NAMI-NYS as a proposed candidate for director. The nomination prepared must include the nominee's full name, home address, and contact information. Such proposals shall be written, accompanied by a brief resume (we suggest 500 words or less) and written consent of the persons nominated, and forwarded to the Chairperson of the Nomination and Election Committee by September 11, 2017. The Nomination and Election Committee shall review the qualifications of the nominators, and their resumes, and shall send to each NAMI-NYS member the qualified list by October 11, 2017.
- Paid staff members of NAMI-NYS or any NAMI affiliate may not be elected to the Board of Directors.

- The candidate must be a member in good standing at the time of the nomination. The person nominating him/her must be a member in good standing. The membership dues for the nominee, the nominator and the affiliate(s) of which the candidate is a member must be in good standing at the time of nomination. Affiliate dues are \$10 per year. The deadline for nominations this year is September 11, 2017. We will accept nominations postmarked up to, and including, September 9, 2017.
- The deadline this year for members to be eligible to receive a ballot to vote is 5:00 pm on October 2, 2016. All membership must be received by this office or must be uploaded and paid in NAMI 360.
- Nominations must be forwarded to the NAMI-NYS office by U.S. Postal Service, either by registered mail, certified mail, Express Mail or Priority Mail, or any other USPS service offering return receipts or signature confirmation. Faxes are not acceptable. Nominations are to be sent to: *NAMI-NYS Nomination and Election Committee, 99 Pine Street, Suite 105, Albany, New York 12207* or can be emailed to tropper8@hotmail.com.
- A recent photograph of the candidate is requested to be sent electronically to info@naminys.org.

If additional information is needed, or if you have any questions, please contact Wendy or Sharon in the NAMI-NYS office at (518) 462-2000.

Sincerely,

Dr. Evelyne Tropper, Chairperson
Nomination and Election Committee