

NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI Advocacy Committee – January 17, 2024

Thank you for the opportunity to address your committee today. The NAMI Advocacy Committee's mission is to see that public policy makes a difference in the lives of both the people living with mental health conditions and the people in their lives. Changes in policy can mean better outcomes.

We are advocating for Person-Centered Care for Kansans by asking for a Supportive Decision-Making Agreement and Shared Decision-Making Approaches.

Kansans do not have a mid-level, effective alternative for a non-guardianship option available for individuals that live with a disability or mental illness. Supported Decision Making offers options to individuals seeking assistance with financial or health decisions without requiring them to give up their independence and ability to make their own life decisions.

It is an important tool for Kansans who may face difficulties due to living with disability and mental illness. Mental illness impacts our thoughts and behaviors and each of those help with making good decisions.

Thank you for your consideration.

NAMI Advocacy Committee