

NAMI WASHINGTON'S POLICY MATRIX

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF NAMI WA'S POLICY MATRIX?

- The policy matrix describes the high-level policy goals of NAMI Washington. It functions as a scope of work and does not dictate how NAMI Washington might prioritize a bill during the legislative session.
- Each of the four key issue areas have been identified as critical components to a comprehensive behavioral health care system that we hope to advance in our state.
- NAMI Washington's policy goals align with NAMI National's policy priorities and public policy platform.



INCREASE ACCESS TO A CONTINUUM OF SERVICES & SUPPORTS.

- Increase access to a full continuum of care for behavioral health conditions that is equitable, evidence-based, coordinated, comprehensive, integrated, person-centered, easily navigable, and accessible from multiple points of entry.
- Ensure effective and optimum medications are affordable and accessible.
- Support development of the behavioral health workforce to adequately meet a wide range of needs across the continuum of care.
- Ensure capacity for care across the full continuum that can be accessed on an appropriate timeline.
- Enhance care and recovery support by promoting access to stable housing, employment, crisis respite, peer support and empathetic connections to others.



PRIORITIZE PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION.

- Provide comprehensive, quality, and evidence-based behavioral health services and supports to youth and young adults.
- Increase access to quality and evidence-based prevention and early intervention for behavioral health conditions with multiple points of entry.



DECRIMINALIZE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.

- Increase and strengthen evidence-based practices to improve behavioral health crisis response and diversion from the criminal legal system.
- Promote access to quality and timely behavioral health care and reform policies and practices that negatively impact behavioral health while someone is incarcerated.
- Increase and promote access to quality and timely behavioral health care and supports during the reentry process.



FULLY FUND THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

- Provide adequate, sustainable, and equitable funding for programs, research, services, and supports across the entire behavioral health continuum of care.
- Allocate resources and leverage existing mechanisms that make quality behavioral health care affordable and accessible for all.