



National Alliance on Mental Illness

# NAMI | New Hampshire

March 23, 2018

Ms. Leslie Melby  
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services  
129 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Attn: Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Access Section 1115(a)  
Research and Demonstration Waiver

Dear Ms. Melby:

On behalf of NAMI NH the National Alliance on Mental Illness and our Board of Directors, NAMI NH is submitting this letter as our formal comment and support of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services request for a Substance Use Disorder and Recovery Access Section 1115(a) Demonstration Waiver. The proposed waiver will allow the State to receive federal funds for adults and adolescents who are Medicaid-eligible and receive residential substance use disorder treatment in an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) for as long as is medically necessary.

NH is in the midst of an addiction crisis with the third highest per capita overdose death in the country. The Department of Health and Human Services together with Governor Sununu, our Legislature and the Congressional delegation have all been working thoughtfully and tirelessly to support individuals and families impacted by this crisis and to provide a full array of treatment, services and supports. This 1115(a) waiver will be an important component to getting affected individuals timely access to lifesaving treatment services.

Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our support.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Norton, LICSW  
Executive Director

*Find Help, Find Hope*

NAMI New Hampshire • 85 North State Street • Concord, NH 03301  
InfoLine: 800-242-6264 • Tel. 603-225-5359 • Fax 603-228-8848 • [info@naminh.org](mailto:info@naminh.org) / [www.NAMINH.org](http://www.NAMINH.org)