



## **NAMI Board of Directors Resolution Against Racism**

Approved June 2020

WHEREAS NAMI represents the interests of all people with mental health conditions, regardless of age, gender, race or ethnicity, national origin, religion, disability, language, socio-economic status, sexual orientation or gender identity;

WHEREAS people with mental health conditions frequently encounter attitudinal and policy barriers resulting from negative stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination;

WHEREAS NAMI condemns all acts of prejudice and discrimination whether individual, institutional or structural, and regardless of whether by intent, ignorance, or insensitivity;

WHEREAS racism and racial discrimination are pervasive and persistent, can result in toxic stress and trauma, negatively impact mental health and lead to mental health disparities;

WHEREAS people of color often experience pain, trauma and disrespect at the hands of our nation's health care, criminal justice and other systems that can result in fear and distrust;

WHEREAS NAMI is strongly committed to the principle that all individuals, including communities of color and people with mental illness, should be treated with respect and dignity and deserve equitable health outcomes and full inclusion.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that NAMI strongly denounces racism, in all its forms, for its negative psychological, social, educational, economic effects and supports public policy to eliminate the mental health disparities perpetuated by racism and racial discrimination.