

NAMI YAKIMA

BOARD CANDIDATE APPLICATION

WORKING BOARD • LEADERSHIP • OWNERSHIP • COMMUNITY IMPACT

THIS IS A WORKING BOARD

Board members provide active governance and personally carry meaningful organizational work between meetings. They are expected to take ownership, follow through, and independently manage the commitments they accept.

WHAT SERVICE ON THIS BOARD MEANS

- Attend scheduled board meetings, read materials in advance, and come prepared to make decisions.
- Take ownership of at least one ongoing board responsibility, project, committee, or workstream.
- Complete agreed work between meetings and meet deadlines.
- Communicate early when a commitment is at risk and help identify a path forward.
- Help strengthen NAMI Yakima's financial resources through fundraising, donor and sponsor relationships, events, or other development work appropriate to your role and ability.
- Represent NAMI Yakima positively in the community and help build relationships, partnerships, volunteers, and future board leadership.
- Protect confidentiality, disclose conflicts of interest, and make decisions in the best interests of NAMI Yakima.

BEFORE YOU APPLY Please confirm that these expectations fit the way you want to serve.

- ☐ I understand this is a working board, not an advisory-only board.
- ☐ I can contribute meaningful time outside of regular board meetings.
- ☐ I am willing to take the lead on defined work.
- ☐ I can manage my own board assignments, deadlines, and follow-up.
- ☐ I am willing to participate in fundraising and community relationship-building in ways that fit my skills and role.
- ☐ I am open to serving on a committee or workgroup and considering a board leadership role as I gain experience.

If several of these statements do not fit your current capacity, another volunteer role may be a better match. NAMI Yakima wants board service to be meaningful, realistic, and successful for both the organization and the volunteer.

1. CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Full name	
Preferred email	
Preferred phone	
City / ZIP	
Occupation / role	<i>If retired or not currently employed, a former role is welcome.</i>
Employer / organization	<i>Optional</i>
Preferred contact	☐ Email ☐ Phone Best time: _____

2. MOTIVATION, PERSPECTIVE, AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Why do you want to serve on the NAMI Yakima Board of Directors?

What do you believe NAMI Yakima most needs from its Board over the next two to three years?

Please describe relevant volunteer, fundraising, leadership, professional, or community involvement.

Optional perspective question *NAMI values lived, family, professional, and community perspectives related to mental health. If you wish, tell us about experiences or perspectives that shape your interest in NAMI Yakima.*

Have you served on a nonprofit board before? If yes, please list the organization(s), role(s), and approximate dates.

3. LEADERSHIP, INITIATIVE, AND FOLLOW-THROUGH

A working board depends on people who can see what needs to happen, take responsibility, and finish what they start. Please give specific examples.

Tell us about a project, initiative, or problem that you personally moved from idea to completion with limited supervision. What did you own, what did you do, and what was the result?

Describe a time when a commitment was at risk because of competing priorities. How did you communicate, adjust, and make sure the work was handled?

Give an example of a time you helped organize people, delegate work, or build momentum around a shared goal.

4. AVAILABILITY AND WORK STYLE

Board work varies throughout the year. In addition to board meetings, members should expect to complete tasks and participate in projects, committees, fundraising, or community work between meetings.

Approximately how much time can you consistently contribute to board work outside regular board meetings?

☐ 2-4 hours/month

☐ 9-12 hours/month

☐ 5-8 hours/month

☐ 13+ hours/month

Are there predictable work, family, travel, or seasonal commitments the Board should understand when planning your participation? *Please answer based on your typical availability so we can set expectations that are realistic and sustainable.*

5. WHERE YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE AND LEAD

For each area, mark the level that best describes your current interest and readiness. You do not need expertise in every area. We are looking for people who will take ownership of specific areas and work well as part of a team.

Area	Lead now	Support	Learn
Board governance, bylaws, policies, and compliance	☐	☐	☐
Board recruitment, onboarding, and succession	☐	☐	☐
Finance, budgeting, and financial oversight	☐	☐	☐
Fundraising, donor development, and stewardship	☐	☐	☐
Business sponsorships and community partnerships	☐	☐	☐
Events and fundraising campaigns	☐	☐	☐
Communications, marketing, and public awareness	☐	☐	☐
Volunteer and membership engagement	☐	☐	☐
Strategic planning and organizational systems	☐	☐	☐
Advocacy, outreach, and community education	☐	☐	☐

Which one or two areas above are you willing to take primary ownership of during your first year?

What type of project or responsibility would you be especially interested in taking ownership of during your first six months?

Fundraising and community development *Check all activities you are willing to participate in.*

☐ Introduce potential donors, sponsors, or community partners

☐ Thank and help steward donors and sponsors

☐ Ask businesses or individuals for sponsorships or contributions

☐ Participate in community outreach events, such as tabling

☐ Help plan or execute fundraising events or campaigns

☐ Help with grant ideas, proposals, or reporting when appropriate

6. FUTURE BOARD LEADERSHIP

NAMI Yakima wants to develop future committee chairs and officers. You do not need to be ready for an officer role now; this simply helps us understand your interests over time.

As you gain experience with NAMI Yakima, which leadership roles might you be open to considering in the future?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Committee or project chair | ☐ Vice President |
| ☐ Secretary | ☐ President |
| ☐ Treasurer | ☐ Not sure yet / would like to learn more |

7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

NAMI Yakima board members must avoid or appropriately disclose actual, potential, or perceived conflicts between personal, professional, business, or financial interests and the interests of NAMI Yakima.

Do you currently know of any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest that should be disclosed? ☐ No ☐ Yes - please explain below

8. REFERENCES

Please provide two people who can speak to your reliability, judgment, initiative, leadership, or community involvement.

Name	Relationship	Email	Phone

9. APPLICANT COMMITMENT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

- ☐ I have read the working-board expectations on page 1 and believe I can meet them.
- ☐ I understand that accepting a board seat means taking responsibility for work between meetings, not only attending meetings.
- ☐ I will communicate proactively if I cannot complete an agreed assignment or meet a deadline.
- ☐ I understand that board members are responsible for managing and following through on the commitments they accept.
- ☐ If appointed, I will complete required NAMI Yakima policy acknowledgments, including conflict-of-interest requirements, and follow the organization's bylaws and policies.
- ☐ I understand that submitting this application does not guarantee appointment and that board service is subject to NAMI Yakima's governing process.

Applicant signature

Date