



# Application for Speakers Community Education & Outreach

## In Our Own Voice & Sharing Our Stories

Thank you for your interest in becoming a speaker for a NAMI Massachusetts education program.

**In Our Own Voice (IOOV)** is a powerful presentation that aims to change attitudes, assumptions, and stereotypes about people living with mental health conditions. Two trained presenters with lived experience of a mental health condition talk openly about their experiences and how they have found pathways to hope and healing. Audience members have the opportunity to ask questions, learn more about mental health, and challenge misconceptions. We are specifically looking for presenters who are willing to present in-person and have availability during the day Monday-Friday. We are also especially interested in presenters who would like to speak to police officers, workplace audiences, K-12 educators, and students.

**Sharing Our Stories (SOS)** is an impactful presentation delivered by two family members of people living with mental health conditions. Two trained presenters share their experiences as caregivers and supporters and their personal journeys. Audience members will have the chance to ask questions and engage in discussion with the speakers. We are specifically looking for presenters who are able to share their stories with police officers, educators, other parents, and workplace audiences and have availability during the day Monday-Friday.

To apply to speak for one of these programs, please complete the application below and send it to Kyrie Mohammed at [kmohammed@namimass.org](mailto:kmohammed@namimass.org). We will follow-up to schedule interviews in October and November 2021. Please complete this application ONLY if you are able to attend one of the training dates listed below.

**Saturday, November 13, 2021:** training for family perspective speakers

9 AM - 6 PM

Woburn, MA - in-person

**Sunday, November 14, 2021:** training for In Our Own Voice speakers

9 AM - 6 PM

Woburn, MA - in-person

**Saturday, January 8, 2022:** training for family perspective speakers

9 AM - 6 PM

Virtual - Zoom

**Sunday, January 9, 2022:** training for In Our Own Voice speakers

9 AM - 6 PM

Woburn, MA - in-person

All selected applications must participate in the complete training course, which includes a pre-training session, independent pre-work, and a full-day training session. All of our programs have a low time commitment with flexible scheduling. Speakers will receive a stipend and travel reimbursement for each presentation.

Please select the program/perspective for which you are applying to be a speaker along with the audiences you are most interested in speaking to (check all that apply). We provide presentations to a wide variety of audiences so it is helpful to know which audiences you think your story would most resonate with.

☐ **In Our Own Voice** (person with lived experience of a mental health condition)

- ☐ Police officers (as part of Crisis Intervention Team Training)
- ☐ College/university students
- ☐ Middle school and high school students
- ☐ K-12 educators
- ☐ Workplace audiences
- ☐ Inpatient units
- ☐ Healthcare professionals
- ☐ General community
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Sharing Our Stories** (family member of a person with a mental health condition or substance use condition)

- ☐ Police officers (as part of Crisis Intervention Team Training)
- ☐ K-12 educators
- ☐ Parents in K-12 school settings
- ☐ Workplace audiences
- ☐ General community
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete all of the information on the following pages to complete your application.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

We seek to have a diverse group of speakers with different experiences. As such we ask applicants to provide the following personal information if they feel comfortable in doing so. The following information is completely optional.

Gender Identity (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Age (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Race (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Religious Affiliation (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Job/Profession (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide complete answers to the following short answer questions.

Do you have experience speaking publicly? If yes, please describe. Public speaking experience is not a requirement.

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How do you feel about sharing your story related to mental health with strangers? Are you comfortable talking about your struggles and successes, including what happened, what helps, and where you are now?

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Please briefly describe the personal experiences you would like to share with an audience as part of one of our education programs.

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How do you maintain your own recovery? Or how do you support your family member in their recovery?

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Why are you interested in speaking as part of one of our education programs?

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Please list any successes or achievement that you are proud of in your life.

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Is there additional information you would like to share?

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Do you have reliable internet access and consistent access to a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone that you can use for email communication and virtual presentations (via Zoom and other platforms)?

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Do you have access to a car or other form of transportation? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your general availability for presentations? Please note that we will prioritize applicants who are available for presentations during the daytime on Monday – Friday as that is when the majority of presentations occur.

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