



# Sharing Our Stories

## Application for Speakers

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

**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 or 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 Sarah Ford at [sford@namimass.org](mailto:sford@namimass.org). We will follow-up to schedule interviews via Zoom. Please complete this application ONLY if you are able to attend one of the training dates listed below.

**Saturday, July 9, 2022:** Sharing Our Stories - training for family perspective speakers  
9 AM - 6 PM  
Worcester, MA - in-person

All selected applications must participate in the complete training course, which includes 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 audiences you are most interested in speaking to (check all that apply) as part of Sharing Our Stories. 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.

**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
- University/college students
- Faith communities
- 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 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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