

## P&A is committed to:

- Fulfilling the client's expressed wish within their legal rights.
- Promoting client control in decision-making.
- Empowering people with disabilities to foster independence, productivity, and community integration.
- Ensuring people with disabilities can shape their personal destiny.
- Empowering people with disabilities to advocate for themselves to the extent possible.

### Contact Us

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## Apply for the Mental Health Advisory Council if you:

- Are passionate about mental health issues.
- Can help generate ideas for addressing challenges related to mental health services.
- Want to help improve the mental health service delivery system in North Dakota.
- Will contribute to discussions on how P&A should use its limited resources for mental health advocacy.
- Want to assist P&A in setting and achieving goals.

### How To Apply?

Complete an application online at [www.ndpanda.org](http://www.ndpanda.org)



## Mental Health Advisory Council



@nddisabilityrights



ND Protection and Advocacy

P&A is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, self-expression, and talent of the Advisory Council shapes the culture and work of P&A. People with disabilities, people of racial and ethnic minorities, and other marginalized populations are encouraged to apply for the Mental Health Advisory Council.

## An Advisory Council for Protection & Advocacy's Mental Health Program

P&A does not discriminate in admission to, access to, or employment in its programs and services. Contact P&A's Administrative Office to request disability-related accommodations or if you need this material in an alternative format.

## What does the Advisory Council do?

The Advisory Council addresses a variety of issues related to mental health.

- Provides P&A information and identifies issues important to the mental health community.
- Provides feedback on priorities for P&A's mental health program.
- Provides P&A and its governing board with independent advice and recommendations.
- Prepares the annual Advisory Council report detailing activities.
- Educates the public about the mission and purpose of P&A.
- Decides how to use its time and expertise to educate, advise, and select projects.

## Why Join?

- Learn about mental health topics
- Meet new people
- Develop self-advocacy and leadership skills
- Opportunities for financial support to attend mental health conferences and activities

## The Facts

- The Advisory Council consists of 6-10 members, at least 60% of members must have lived experience. Members include:
  - Current and past recipients of mental health services
  - Family members of current and past recipients of mental health services
  - Mental health professionals (including providers)
  - An attorney
  - Individuals knowledgeable about mental health
- Terms are 4 years, running October through September.
- The Advisory Council meets quarterly.
- Members are reimbursed at state rate for meeting and travel expenses.
- Applications for membership are submitted to the Advisory Council for review. The Advisory Council then makes recommendations to the Committee on P&A, which appoints members to the Advisory Council.

## Recent Accomplishments

- Hosted a congressional staffer to discuss federal mental health legislation and share ideas for improving mental health services in ND.
- Toured mental health facilities to learn about services available to youth and adults.
- Hosted various speakers to learn about mental health programs and services.
- Led the rewrite and launch of the Individual Justice Planning process.

## What is P&A's Mental Health Program?

P&A's mental health program provides free services to people with an eligible mental health diagnosis. Services include information and referral, protective services, advocacy assistance, advocacy and legal representation, education, and more. This program was established by the 1986 Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Act. Authorized in 42 U.S.C. § 10801, P.L. 106-310.

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