

What is the PAIMI Program?

P&A's PAIMI Program provides services to eligible individuals with a diagnosis of serious mental illness. These services include:

- Information & referral;
- Education & training;
- Advocacy assistance;
- Advocacy representation;
- Legal representation;
- Protective services;
- Systems advocacy;
- Legislative information.

Priorities for the use of PAIMI's limited resources are established and reviewed at least annually by P&A staff, the PAIMI AC, and the Committee on P&A. There is no charge for P&A's services.

P&A does not discriminate in admission or access to, or employment in, its programs and activities. If accommodations are needed as a result of a disability or if you need this material in an alternative format, please contact the P&A administrative office.

Protection & Advocacy Project

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PAIMI is authorized in:

42 U.S.C. § 10801, P.L. 106-310

Protection and Advocacy for

Individuals with Mental Illness Act 1986,

as amended

(Last amendment and reauthorization:

Children's Health Act of 2000)



Advisory Council for the Protection & Advocacy of Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)

**Consider becoming a
member...**

- Are you passionate about mental health issues?
- Can you help generate ideas on how to address barriers and concerns that individuals with mental illness, as well as their families, face in North Dakota?
- Are you willing to contribute to discussions on how P&A should use its limited resources for mental health advocacy?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, you are encouraged to apply to be a member of the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Advisory Council (PAIMI AC). The PAIMI AC serves in an advisory capacity to the Protection & Advocacy Project (P&A) and its governing board, the Committee on Protection & Advocacy.

What is the PAIMI AC?

The PAIMI AC is made up of six to ten individuals who represent a variety of voices, including:

- Individuals who have received, or who are receiving, mental health services and family members of such individuals (who make up at least 60% of the membership);
- A mental health professional;
- A provider of mental health services;
- An attorney; and
- Individuals from the public who are knowledgeable about mental illness.

Members’ terms are for four years, running October through September. Applications for membership are submitted to the PAIMI AC and its recommendations are carried forth to the Committee on Protection & Advocacy, which makes the actual appointments.

The PAIMI AC addresses a variety of issues related to individuals with mental illnesses of all ages. It is up to the PAIMI AC to decide how to use its time and expertise in educating itself and advising the P&A staff, as well as the Committee on P&A. In the recent past, this has included tours of facilities such as the State Hospital, group homes, and wellness recovery centers.

The PAIMI AC generally meets quarterly. The meeting dates and locations are decided by the PAIMI AC, with the Chair setting the agendas. Members are reimbursed for expenses related to travel for its meetings and, depending on funding availability, may also receive financial support to participate in related conferences & other activities. Ongoing meeting attendance is expected, though participation may take place via telephone or video conferencing.