

Volunteer Speakers Wanted!

- ✓ Do you have lived experience with a mental health condition?
- ✓ Do you want to share your story to in order to help others?

WE NEED YOU!

“In Our Own Voice”

A presentation program that aims to increase awareness and change attitudes, assumptions, and stereotypes about people living with mental health conditions.

- ✓ Volunteer stipends
- ✓ Mileage reimbursement
- ✓ Gain public speaking skills
- ✓ Join community of speakers who share a background in mental health
- ✓ Free training (with food)!

**APPLY
HERE:**



 **NAMI** | Massachusetts
National Alliance on Mental Illness

namimass.org/nami-in-our-own-voice

“In Our Own Voice” Speaker Training

**Interested applicants should fill out an application at:
<https://namimass.org/nami-in-our-own-voice/>**

The IOOV Training Process:

- 1-hour interview with NAMI Mass staff on Zoom: Potential speakers will be asked to briefly share their mental health journey with staff. Staff will discuss logistics and expectations related to the program and answer any questions applicants might have.
- 2-hour pre-training session on Zoom: Trainees will watch an IOOV presentation delivered by current IOOV speakers and participate in a conversation about the speakers’ experiences in the program.
- Self-paced, at-home writing: A training guide is provided to support trainees in writing a rough draft of their IOOV story script. This must be completed before full-day training.
- Full-day training: Trainees will receive feedback on their scripts, practice presenting their stories, learn how to answer audience questions, and more.

*Please note training spots are limited. Following the interviews, selected applicants will only be invited to participate in the training process to become an IOOV speaker.

**FALL 2025
TRAINING:**

**Saturday, October 18th
9 AM - 6 PM
In-Person: Woburn, MA**

Pre-training: Tuesday, September 30th from 6-8 PM

We especially encourage you to apply if:

- You have had police encounters related to your mental health journey
- You are a veteran of the armed forces
- You identify as BIPOC
- You speak Spanish, or another language
- You identify as LGBTQ+
- You have a diverse life experience: persons with disabilities, immigrants, refugees, formally incarcerated individuals, etc.
- You can commit to volunteering for one year
- You can present at least once per month
- Willing to present in-person
- Available during 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday