

PO Box 18086 • Richmond, Virginia 23226 • phone (804) 285-1749 • fax (804) 285-0069 • www.namicva.org

April 6, 2024

To: NAMI Board of Directors Nomination Committee

Re: Letter of nomination of Rebecca Kiessling

Dear NAMI Board of Directors Nomination Committee,

Please accept this letter as and the accompanying application as my formal nomination of Rebecca Kiessling, Executive Director of NAMI Northern Virginia, for a position on the NAMI Board of Directors. This nomination is seconded by Nick Macrini, Executive Director of NAMI Virginia.

I have been privileged to witness Rebecca's passionate commitment to the NAMI mission, nuanced and multifaceted understanding of the challenges faced by people and families impacted by mental illness, and transformational leadership skills. Rebecca has over two decades' experience working for and intensively with non-profits, earning awards for strategic communications and building nationwide grassroots advocacy coalitions along her journey.

NAMI Northern Virginia thrives under Rebecca's confident and empathetic leadership, as is evidenced by the agency's sustainability in making impactful mental health education and support programs available to over two million community members – more than one in five Virginians – throughout Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax County and Loudoun County. In her leadership, Rebecca showcases her abilities to understand sensitive and complex matters, connect with people from all walks of life, and navigate challenges with healthy doses of both logic and compassion.

Rebecca is extremely worthy of nomination for NAMI Board of Directors membership. Her expertise would contribute substantially to the promotion of NAMI's mission, and her unique perspective would be invaluable in advancing innovative solutions to complex challenges, crafting policy reforms, and fostering a greater sense of unity among our alliance. As such, Rebecca's candidacy has my total support.

I appreciate your consideration of my nomination of Rebecca Kiessling for the NAMI Board of Directors. If there is any additional information I can provide, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Susan Motley, CAE Executive Director NAMI Central Virginia smotley@namicva.org

mini

Nick Macrini, MA, QMHP-A Executive Director NAMI Virginia nmacrini@namivirginia.org