

MEMBERS NEEDED FOR THE

Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Advisory Council to the Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy

The Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Advisory Council is recruiting for new members. This Advisory Council represents individuals with mental illness or serious emotional disturbance. (Individuals with disabilities who do not have mental illness or serious emotional disturbance are represented by the Disabilities Advisory Council (DAC).)

The mission of the Council is to provide recommendations, information, and advice to the Governing Board and staff of the Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy. This helps to assure that individuals with mental illness or emotional disturbance are free from abuse, neglect, and related rights violations. Input from Council members on issues in their local disability community is also encouraged.

The Council consists of 15 — 20 members and shall be broadly representative of the diverse culture and geography of Virginia. The membership of Council shall include individuals who have received or are receiving mental health services and family members, attorneys, mental health professionals, individuals knowledgeable about mental illness, and providers of mental health services. At least sixty percent of the membership is composed of individuals who have received or are receiving mental health services or who are family members of such individuals. The Council includes at least one member who is the parent of a minor child with mental illness. Meetings are held quarterly and travel and lodging expenses are paid by VOPA.

If you are interested in joining the Council, please complete the Council Application and return it to VOPA. If you have questions about the Council, please contact VOPA at 1-800-552-3962 or e-mail to: general.vopa@vopa.virginia.gov.



Virginia's Protection and Advocacy System Serving Persons with Disabilities