

SPEAKING AT THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Support NAMI San Francisco Programs

LOGISTICS & GUIDELINES

Before You Speak:

- Arrive early - public comment slots are first-come, first-served
- Sign up for public comment when you arrive
- Time limit: 2-3 minutes (practice beforehand!)
- Bring these notes but speak from the heart
- State your name and that you're a San Francisco resident

Speaking Tips:

- Lead with your personal connection to NAMI SF
- Be specific - share one story or example
- Stay calm and respectful
- Thank the commissioners
- End with a clear ask

YOUR TALKING POINTS (Choose 2-3)

Personal Impact

Share how NAMI SF helped you, your family, or someone you know. Mention specific programs: Family Support Groups, peer-led support, crisis helpline, Cantonese services, housing site programs.

Community Need

NAMI SF serves over 3,000 people annually. Peer-led support fills gaps that clinical services cannot. Programs reach underserved communities including Cantonese-speaking families and affordable housing residents.

Proven Value

12-year track record with DPH. Peer support reduces hospitalizations and crisis interventions. Prevention and early intervention saves money long-term.

Strong Partnerships

NAMI SF works with SFPD Crisis Intervention Team, ZSFGH psychiatry, housing providers, schools, and City College. Cutting contracts disrupts an integrated network of care.

The Stakes

\$17 million in cuts would eliminate vital programs when mental health needs are rising. No other organization can immediately replace these peer-led services. We cannot afford to lose infrastructure that took years to build.

YOUR ASK (Say this clearly)

"I urge you to preserve Department of Public Health funding for NAMI San Francisco's programs. Our community cannot afford to lose these essential services."

Thank you for speaking up for mental health support in San Francisco!

Questions? Contact NAMI SF