

June 13, 201

Dr. Kimberly Holmes
Director
Office of Title III Programs
Albany State University
Albany, GA 31705

Dear Dr. Holmes,

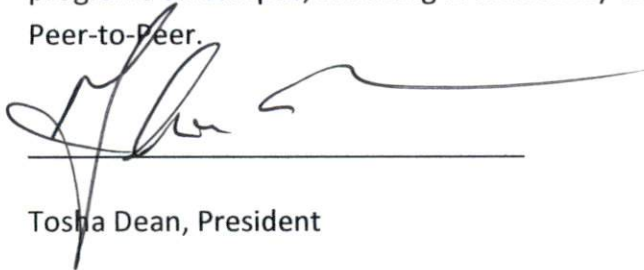
We at NAMI Albany, the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, offer our enthusiastic support to Dr. George Thomas and Albany State University in their funding request for Mental Health Awareness on Campus.

We know that there is a great need on college and university campuses for mental health awareness, education and support. The African American population in general is underserved in the area of mental health.

Albany is poised to offer more services for youth (and children) as a pilot site for NAMI Georgia's developing emphasis on children and youth. We are currently partnering with the Albany Police Department in offering relevant trainings to public school staff and other agencies who work with children, youth, and families.

The Albany Police Department, the campus police at Albany State, and our county sheriff's department and jail have been very active in keeping up the training for law officers and first responders in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, with regular opportunities for this training.

If Dr. Thomas's funding request is granted, we will commit to serving on the advisory board for the grant. We will also provide a minimum of two workshops a year for students and/or staff. We will assist in establishing support groups and a NAMI On Campus, so that awareness and support will be available to students. We would also be interested in hosting NAMI education programs on campus, including NAMI Family-to-Family, an Evidence-Based Practice, and NAMI Peer-to-Peer.



Tosha Dean, President