

NAMI New Hampshire Statement on Zero Adults Subject to IEA Petition Boarding in Emergency Departments as of December 6, 2024

Concord, NH – As of this afternoon, [NH DHHS reports](#) that there are no adults subject to an Involuntary Emergency Admission (IEA) petition boarding in NH hospitals. This is the first time in nearly 5 years that no adult IEA patients are boarding in our state. Reaching this milestone would not have been possible without the commitment and leadership of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, New Hampshire Hospital, the New Hampshire Hospital Association, and the Community Behavioral Health Association.

For over 11 years, Granite Staters in acute psychiatric need have faced prolonged wait times – days or even weeks long – for an inpatient psychiatric bed.

Just over a year since the launch of the [Mission Zero](#) collaborative initiative, we have reached Zero – for today. We can do hard things when we work together.

NAMI New Hampshire is fully cognizant that 3 adults in correctional facilities, and 11 children are still waiting for inpatient psychiatric beds. We remain dedicated to helping ensure that all Granite Staters, no matter their age or situation, are able to get the care they need, when and where they need it.

NAMI NH Executive Director Susan Stearns shared, “We will continue to work alongside our partners – and look forward to the day that ED boarding truly no longer exists in NH. To all the individuals and families who have shared their deeply personal and painful experiences with ED boarding to help move our policymakers and health care partners toward this systems transformation – thank you. Hope does, indeed, start with you.”

If you or someone you know needs immediate support, you can call, text, or chat confidentially with a trained crisis worker 24/7 through 988 at no cost.