

## **VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Volunteer Position Title:** Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Role Player

**Location:** CIT program sessions are in-person, statewide.

**Commitment:** Thursday and/or Friday, from 12:00 to 4:30 PM, as needed.

**Mission:**

- NAMI New Hampshire is a grassroots organization working to improve the lives of all people affected by mental illness and suicide through support, education, and advocacy.
- CIT International, Inc. aspires to be a leader in promoting safe and humane responses to those experiencing a mental health crisis.

**Position Summary:**

Role plays are a critical piece of CIT program sessions and consist of people with lived experience acting out loosely scripted scenarios related to mental health crises. The scenarios help officers gain a better understanding of what it is like to live with a mental health condition. Role players also briefly discuss their own personal stories with law enforcement and other first responders.

Benefits: Role players can use their lived experience, even if it may not have been positive, to impact outcomes for others. Role players also get to know law enforcement and other first responders, which humanizes them for us – and the other way around. You may take pride in knowing that you are educating first responders to better respond to crises so there is increased safety for all. This is an opportunity for empowerment around the experience of mental illness, learning that we can use our experience to help others.

**Desired Skills and Experience:**

- Must have lived experience with a mental health condition, or as a family member of someone with a mental health condition.
- Must be in the advocacy stage of your experience with mental health issues.
- Preferred experience interacting with law enforcement.
- Must be comfortable around all types of first responders.
- Preferably comfortable presenting in front of groups of people and have willingness to learn how to improve your presentation skills.
- Preferred experience with other NAMI/NAMI NH programs, including but not limited to, support groups, education programs, speaker programs and advocacy.
- Must be committed to NAMI NH's mission, values and volunteer policies.

**Physical demands:** While performing the duties of this role, it is regularly required to talk or hear. Must be comfortable in a small room and in groups of people. Accommodations may be available.

**Screening process:**

- Complete a volunteer application at <https://www.naminh.org/volunteer/>
- Interview with CIT Program Manager or CIT Program Assistant for readiness to share your story.
- Attend an orientation to CIT, explaining the history and practice of CIT in New Hampshire.
- Attend a CIT training to observe a role play and ask questions about the role.