

Mental Health Advocacy Day
Scheduled Testimony to Vermont State Legislators
Thursday, January 29, 2026

House Committee on Health Care (Room 42)

9:00-10:00 am & 1:00 pm

Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-health-care>

Tasha Kleppner, Committee Assistant -- Tasha.Kleppner@vtleg.gov

- **9:00 AM -- Mental Health Advocacy Day**
- Kathleen Kilbourne, Events & Fundraising Coordinator, NAMI Vermont
Community and Connection: NAMI Vermont Updates for Youth and Families
- Phoenix Crockett, Managing Director, Me2/Classical Music for Mental Health
- Alexander Sandy Smith, Director, Adult Mental Health Services, Counseling Service of Addison County
Testimony will focus on the value of low barrier peer based mental health support and mental health urgent care programs
- **1:00 PM -- Mental Health Advocacy Day**
- Amy Johnson, Government Affairs & Communications Director, Vermont Care Partners

House Committee on General & Housing (Room 31)

9:00-10:00 am

Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-general-and-housing>

Miriam Eligberg, Committee Assistant -- Miriam.Eligberg@vtleg.gov

- Lindsey St.Amour, Executive Director, Disability Rights Vermont
- The intersection of people with disabilities, many with mental health diagnoses, and people experiencing homelessness on one end of the spectrum and also at the other end of the spectrum in the most restrictive settings- institutions: correctional, psychiatric, emergency departments. Leaving this enormous gap in between.
- Kahlia Livingston, Fair Housing Project Education & Outreach Coordinator
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
Correlation between people with disabilities having fixed incomes and why it's important to limit security deposits and rent increases for renters.
- Gloria Quinn, Executive Director, Upper Valley Services (virtual)

House Committee on Human Services (Room 46)

9:00-9:30 am

Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-human-services>

Lori Morse, Committee Assistant -- LMorse@vtleg.gov

- Delaina Norton, Executive Director, Champlain Community Services &
- Beth Sightler, Executive Director, Washington County Mental Health

House Committee on Corrections & Institutions (Room 34)

11:30-11:45 am

Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-corrections-and-institutions>

Tate Mullin, Committee Assistant -- Tate.Mullin@vtleg.gov

- Richard Fales, Community Member from Rutland (virtual)

Senate Committee on Health & Welfare (Room 17)

11:45 am-12:00 pm

Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-health-and-welfare>

Calysta Koppenhaver, Committee Assistant -- Calysta.Koppenhaver@vtleg.gov

- Cari Kelley, Community Member in Grand Isle
Mental Health, Addiction, and Health Care: A Parent's Perspective

House Committee on Education (Room M103 – 3rd floor)**1:30-2:00 pm***Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-education>*Matt Sorensen, Committee Assistant -- Matt.Sorensen@vtleg.gov

- Ian Trombulak, School Counseling Director / VTSCA Board Member & Advocacy Chair
Lamoille Union High School / Vermont School Counselor Association
Mental health trends, concerns, and potential areas of impact for Vermont teenagers (grades 9-12)
- Kristin Chandler, Coordinator, Team Two Vermont
Mental Health First Aid in Schools

Senate Committee on Education (Room 28)**1:30-2:00 pm***Meetings are livestreamed at: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-education>*Daphne Kinney-Landis, Committee Assistant -- Daphne.Kinney-Landis@vtleg.gov

- Jason Gingold, Montpelier Middle and High School Principal (virtual)
- Angela Fillion, Allen Brook Elementary School Principal (virtual)

House Chamber**3:30 pm**

- 3:30 pm – Mental Health Advocacy Day Resolution Reading

