



NAMI APPLAUDS SUPREME COURT DECISION TO UPHOLD ACA



Access to timely and effective treatment and support for individuals with a mental illness is a crucial element in leading a full and productive life, paying taxes and contributing to society. Yet, individuals with mental illness have historically found private health insurance to be costly, hard to get, hard to keep and limited in its mental health benefits. With the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the establishment of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, Maryland Health Connection, 460,000 Marylanders have acquired insurance since 2013, without limitations such as excluding coverage for previously existing conditions.

Health care reform is a complex issue that is constantly evolving. NAMI Maryland is committed to working with decision makers, coalition partners and our membership to ensure an on-going dialogue about the importance of making comprehensive mental health services available to individuals who need them. If you would like to read more about NAMI Maryland's efforts to ensure successful implementation of health care reform please read the 2015 legislative wrap up [HERE](#).

If you are interested to learn more about Maryland's Health Benefits Exchange you can read their annual report, Maryland Health Benefits Exchanges 2014 Annual Report. The report includes information on plan participation for both the 2014 and upcoming 2015, consumer choice information based on data for the first open enrollment and continuing through September 30, 2014 and provides consumer satisfaction information for those individuals who sought the assistance of Connector Entities, and it details the results of consumer surveys on Marylanders' familiarity with Maryland Health Connection. Finally, the report contains a summary of activities related to MHBE's financial integrity, marketing and outreach, and the fraud, waste, and abuse program.

CLICK [HERE](#) to read NAMI's statement about the decision.