

## ADVOCACY SUPPORT

### **Why Are We Funding the Advocacy Support?**

This program area provides annual general operating grants to important state policy research and consumer support advocacy organizations.

### **What is the Goal of This Program?**

The Foundation recognizes the importance of strengthening resources in grass root volunteer advocacy organizations. Approximately \$150,000 is allocated for one-year grant awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 to the following preselected organizations:

**Association for Children's Mental Health (ACMH):** ACMH provides advocacy support for individual children and their families across Michigan by focusing on activities to enhance the system of services which address the needs of children with serious emotional disorders.

**Mental Health Association in Michigan (MHAM):** MHAM is the state's oldest nonprofit organization concerned with mental illness and is a leading policy and research advocate. MHAM seeks regulatory action from the State government that it deems is in the best interest of adults and youth experiencing mental illness.

**Michigan's Children:** Michigan's Children bolsters the public policy research advocacy capacity of mental health services providers, and youth and families who receive mental health services. It also leads efforts to seek regulatory action from the state government that it deems is in the best interest of children experiencing or at risk of mental illness.

**NAMI Michigan, NAMI Washtenaw, NAMI Metro, NAMI Detroit:** NAMI Michigan and its affiliates located in the Foundation's geographic focus areas of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw advocate at the state level for persons affected by mental illness and serves as a leading proponent on consumer and family involvement in care, treatment and recovery.