

“Who knew 25 years ago, when I was asked to prepare a package for nomination to be a BOV member that I would still be here? They were looking for a veteran, as the geriatric wards were mostly WWI and WWII male veterans. Although I have no mental health experience, I was retired from the US Air Force and was working in Economic Development for the County. So, you see, you don't need to be a psychiatrist to be a BOV member – you simply need to care – from the heart! The geriatric wards are now long gone, and a wonderful array of outpatient services have replaced them. As a Board of Visitor for the past 25 years, I have found that the patients are just people like you and I, and need someone who is capable of listening, sometimes intervening, and always advocating.”



Patrick R. Rourk
Board of Visitors President
St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center

For more information about becoming a Board of Visitors (BOV) member, contact the Executive Director's Office at the facility located in your region. Find your region on the map inside this brochure.

Greater Binghamton
Health Center
(607) 773-4082

Bronx Psychiatric Center
(929) 348-4002

Buffalo
Psychiatric Center
(716) 816-2001

Capital District
Psychiatric Center
(518) 549-6825

Central NY Forensic
Psychiatric Center
(315) 765-3620

Creedmoor
Psychiatric Center
(718) 264-3600

Elmira
Psychiatric Center
(607) 737-4739

Hutchings
Psychiatric Center
(315) 426-3632

Kingsboro
Psychiatric Center
(718) 221-7395

Kirby Forensic
Psychiatric Center
(646) 766-5014

Manhattan
Psychiatric Center
(646) 766-5014

Mid-Hudson Forensic
Psychiatric Center
(845) 374-8742

Mohawk Valley
Psychiatric Center
(315) 738-3800

New York City
Children's Center

Bronx Campus
(718) 239-3621

Brooklyn Campus
(718) 264-4506

Pilgrim
Psychiatric Center
(631) 761-2616

Rochester
Psychiatric Center
(585) 241-1594

Rockland Children's
Psychiatric Center
(845) 680-4040

Rockland
Psychiatric Center
(845) 680-5700

Sagamore Children's
Psychiatric Center
(631) 370-1711

St. Lawrence
Psychiatric Center
(315) 541-2112

South Beach
Psychiatric Center
(718) 667-2300

Western New York
Children's
Psychiatric Center
(716) 677-7060



BOARD OF VISITORS

All OMH State Psychiatric Centers are seeking interested volunteers to serve as Board of Visitors Members

Contact your regional OMH facility today!



Office of
Mental Health

Advocates Needed

- ◆ Do you have a commitment to and interest in advocating for people with mental illness?
- ◆ Can you relate well to others?
- ◆ Are you interested in working collaboratively with the facility or hospital to improve quality of services being delivered?
- ◆ Are you able to be nonjudgmental?
- ◆ Can you attend meetings at the facility and participate in site inspections and visits?
- ◆ Are you reliable, dependable, organized and have good problem solving skills?
- ◆ Are you passionate about advocating for others?
- ◆ Do you want to consult, advise and work with the director to improve community relations?

Responsibilities include:

- Advocacy, by assuring provision of appropriate care and treatment of patients
- Following the code of conduct– in Public Officers Law §74
- Abiding by the Federal and State Constitutions
- Completion of at least two site visits a year, attendance at facility meetings, and participation in an annual assessment of facilities/programs and related recommendations

Who may serve as a BOV?

- Parents or relatives of patients or former patients, former patients
- Persons who have expressed an interest in or obtained professional knowledge in the care of individuals with mental illness or in mental health endeavors.
- Should live in the community served– regionally or in the same county/ borough
- NAMI members
- Retirees from State Psychiatric Centers



OMH Facilities by Region

