

Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) Advisory Council:

Disability Rights Louisiana (DRLA) is a statewide non-profit Protection and Advocacy (P&A) agency providing **FREE** legal services, advocacy, and other supports to children, adults, and older people with disabilities.

Make a difference in the lives of people with mental illness!

Make a difference in the health of your P&A's PAIMI Program!



The purpose of the PAIMI Councils is to act as a link between the P&A and the mental health community that can:

- Assist the P&A in identifying issues that are of most importance to the mental health community.
- Provide feedback to the P&A staff and the Board of Directors to develop the annual objectives and priorities for the PAIMI program
- Educate the public about the mission and purpose of the P&A

Benefits of serving on a PAIMI Council

- Assist in setting the PAIMI priorities
- Opportunities to educate the public and consumers on the rights of individuals with mental illness and the PAIMI program services
- Ability to work with the PAIMI program to meet its goals for the protection and advocacy of individuals it serves
- Chances to go to training(s) and get information on what is happening in your community around mental health services and/or the consumers
- Supporting individuals that are receiving services to be safe and free from harm.
- Taking on a leadership role in advocacy
- Assisting to change the mental health system
- Learn about legislation and how to talk to policy makers about issues of concern
- PAIMI Advisory Councils (PACs) have the opportunity to build relationships with other disability or marginalized groups to gain more power and influence

Help Set the PAIMI Program's Priorities

- Be the eyes and ears of the mental health community
- Share with your connections in the community what the P&A does and how PAIMI may help them
- Advise P&A Staff & Board of any new trends emerging in mental health in which the P&A could play a role.

For more information contact Melanie Bray, Director of Legal Programs and Advocacy, at
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