May 24, 2018

2018 Women of Influence Selection Committee:

I am honored to recommend Peggy Huppert as a 2018 Woman of Influence. As a NAMI Iowa Board member in 2017 and NAMI Iowa Board President in 2018, I have had the pleasure of working with Peggy on projects that have made an impact on improving mental health in Iowa. I feel that Peggy has done an excellent job during her time at NAMI Iowa and has exemplified how an executive director can make significant changes for the greater good.

In my time working with Peggy, she has shown an extremely high level of involvement and passion. Her work on the Complex Needs Workgroup led to historic legislation on mental health this year, and Peggy is frequently visiting the Iowa Capitol and policymakers to help drive positive change. Peggy has also become a respected and sought after thought leader when it comes to mental health, and I see her on TV and in the newspaper advocating for the improvements that need to be made. In addition, Peggy is creating new and innovative events such as our Beautiful Minds fundraiser and working to make Des Moines University the first medical school in the country to use the NAMI Provider program in their curriculum. On top of all of these accomplishments, Peggy leads a staff, gives presentations, and networks with many stakeholders. Peggy has definitely elevated the work of NAMI Iowa and has helped to create an amazing momentum and recognition of the mental health work that needs to be addressed in Iowa.

On a personal note, I have really enjoyed getting to know Peggy through my service on the NAMI Iowa Board. Peggy is a very thoughtful and skilled professional, and I am always impressed at how much commitment she has to our organization.

Overall, I believe Peggy is an ideal candidate for this award. She has the proven results of her work, and the continued passion to do even more. I believe that Peggy is indeed a Woman of Influence, and I highly recommend her for your award.

Sincerely,

Dawn Grittmann, PharmD

NAMI Iowa Board President

9849 Clark St.

Clive, IA 50325

dawn.grittmann@gmail.com