

**Advocacy and Education Team**



***Annie Slease, M.Ed., Director of Advocacy & Education***

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Annie joined the NAMI Delaware staff team in 2017 after a 25-year career as an educator. In addition to teaching, she has passionately served our local, national and international communities as an author, blogger, advocate and public speaker. Prior to joining the staff, Annie volunteered as a facilitator, speaker and trainer at NAMI Delaware. She has also been active in community and youth musical theatre production.



***Chuck Tarver, Outreach Manager***

*(302) 427-0787 x117, [ctarver@namide.org](mailto:ctarver@namide.org)*

After a career at the University of Delaware, Chuck joined the NAMI Delaware staff team in 2013. Chuck was a long-time volunteer, program facilitator and member of the Board of Directors prior to joining the staff. He oversees outreach and communication efforts for NAMI Delaware and is a program facilitator for several key programs including Family to Family, NAMI SMARTS for Advocacy, and Mental Health First Aid.



***Patricia McDowell, Programs Manager***

*(302) 427-0787 x116, [pmcdowell@namide.org](mailto:pmcdowell@namide.org)*

Pat joined the NAMI Delaware staff team in 2000 and has been leading our educational and support programs for many years. Pat was responsible for establishing many key programs in our state and has been a facilitator of many. She was one of the first NAMI Connection trainers in the country and is locally and nationally a trusted and respected authority on NAMI programming and advocacy. Pat continues to manage much of our NAMI Delaware signature programs.



***Blanca Sandoval, Hispanic Programs Coordinator***

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Blanca Sandoval holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services, concentration in Administration and Family Policy from the University of Delaware. After graduation in May 2017, Blanca spent a month in Spain before beginning her role at NAMI Delaware. Blanca has work and internship experience with local organizations including: Las Americas Aspira Academy, Telemon Corporation, Milford Senior Center, and First State Summer Camp. She is based in Georgetown.



***Rony Baltazar, Public Policy Advisor***

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With a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Delaware, Rony Baltazar serves NAMI Delaware in a part-time capacity, advising on relevant state and local legislation and initiatives. During his academic experience he completed internships with the Delaware Legislative Assembly, the Office of Governor Jack Markell and the Office of Senator Tom R. Carper. He was born and raised in Southern Delaware and has a solid history of volunteer work. He is based in Washington, D.C.