

Jen McGowan-Tomke is the Associate Director of NAMI Chicago, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. She works primarily on NAMI Chicago's policy and advocacy agenda to improving the mental health system in Illinois, including focusing on prevention and early intervention, strengthening mental health services, enhancing support services, and supporting a comprehensive crisis response system. Jen was the co-chair of the statewide Mental Health Opportunities for Youth Diversion Task Force.

Jen previously worked as the Coordinator for Health Planning at the MidAmerica Center for Public Health Practice housed at the University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health. In this role, she worked on the Illinois State Health Assessment and Improvement Plan for 2016.

From 2012 to 2015, Jen worked as a health care policy analyst in the Illinois Governor's Office. In this role, she worked on the policy team for the Illinois Health Insurance Marketplace (Get Covered Illinois), and was the lead on training and certification for the consumer assistance program. Jen worked with the state's training partners to develop and execute training related to the Health Insurance Marketplace and Medicaid. In addition to this, she worked as a policy analyst in the Governor's Office of Health Innovation and Transformation. She supported planning and implementation efforts related to an Illinois specific health care delivery transformation plan.

Jen holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in Political Science and Sociology and a Master's Degree in Health Policy Administration from UIC.