



National Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis

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June 30, 2014

The Honorable Tim Murphy, Ph.D.
US House of Representatives 2332
Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Murphy:

The National Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis (NAAP), which represents 1,200 mental health professionals throughout the United States, is pleased to support your efforts to assist families facing mental health situations and crises. The *Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act* is a necessary, and clearly carefully crafted, tool to improve the service delivery system for providers, patients, their families, and our communities.

While the modalities of treatment vary across the mental health professions, our goals are shared – helping those in need secure access to treatment, assisting their families, and improving the mental health and safety of our communities. As a practicing Psychologist in Congress, your leadership on this issue and the priority you place on mental health services are valued and appreciated.

As NAAP works state-by-state, and in Washington, on behalf of our practitioners and training institutes, we too see the importance of expanding the availability of mental health services necessary for the well-being of children, adolescents, and adults with mental disorders and challenges through both out-patient counseling and in-patient settings.

Comprehensive mental health reforms are needed. Too many preventable tragedies have been happening. Whether involving young people, veterans, or other neighbors, there is a need for the help proposed in your legislation. Mental health stakeholders throughout the professions should support this effort. We appreciate your reaching out for us, and encourage you to continue considering NAAP as a resource.

Sincerely,

Douglas F. Maxwell, JD, LP, NCPsyA
President