



## Partners in Excellence Award



Jaime Junior was just recognized at the CMHAM Fall Conference in Traverse City.

The Partners in Excellence award is designed to recognize those who have, in the process of utilizing community mental health services, enhanced the perception of those services and their recipients within the community.



Living with a disability has never slowed Jaime Junior down.

As a native Detroiter and honor roll student, Jaime knew that if she was going to aspire to a higher calling, she would have to share life's learning experiences with others. After graduating with a business degree from the Detroit College of Business, Jaime actively contributed to the Michigan Developmental Disability Council and the DWIHN Constituents Voice Advisory Board.

As a member of Detroit's Warriors on Wheels organization, Jaime discovered many people living with disabilities who found renewed strength in bonding together to bring positive change. One of the changes she contributed to was greater access to public transportation for those with disabilities.

As a mother of a special need's son, Jaime continuously advocates for those with health challenges. In 2019, she was a spokesperson at the "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" rally in Lansing. Her role as keynote speaker was to continue to bring awareness to the issues facing people with disabilities by educating legislators and putting an end to the stigma related to mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance use and healthcare coverage equality.

Jaime just recently joined the City of Detroit's Office of Disability Affairs, Civil Rights, Inclusion & Opportunity Department as the Community Coordinator. DWIHN partnered with Jaime and her team earlier this year on a Town Hall discussion about Vaccine Hesitancy for people with disabilities as well as on other projects including a television special geared toward people with disabilities, an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) social media campaign and several other community engagement projects.

Jaime is an excellent teacher and has held several financial literacy and technology trainings for people receiving services through the community mental health system. She continues to look for ways in which she can share her knowledge of the system and encourage her peers to live a life of inclusion and contribution.

Because of her drive to succeed in advocating and supporting people who experience life's challenges, we recommend Jaime Junior for the Partners in Excellence award.