



NAMI - CLARK COUNTY

Affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness
The Nation's Voice on Mental Illness



"Our mission is to improve the quality of life for all those struggling with and affected by brain disorders; people with a psychiatric condition, family members, mental health professionals, and concerned citizens. Our goal is to support, educate, advocate, promote recovery,

Office Info

Executive Director

Janice McKenzie

Adm.Assist./Bookkeeper

Anna Burden

Office & Library

Hours:

Monday – Thursday
11:00 am– 2:00 pm
(closed on holidays)

Phone: (360) 695-2823

Fax: (360) 823-1088

Street Address

317 East 39th Street
(SW corner of 39th
& Main Street)

Mailing Address:

PO Box 5353
Vancouver, WA 98668

Website:

www.nami-clark.com



2008

COMING EVENTS

May 13 (2nd Tuesday)

Education Meeting: 7:00-8:30pm

Jen Matheson
Department of Community Services
Housing Connections

June 10 (2nd Tuesday)

Education Meeting: 7:00-8:30pm

Diana Phillips
Wellness Project

Spring Family 2 Family Classes

Begins May 14, 2008

Classes held every Wednesday 7:00-9:30PM.
12-week education program for families affected
with mental health issues.

May 14 & June 11 (2nd Wednesdays)

NAMI/ADAPT Support Group
SWMC Memorial Campus-7:00 PM

May 20 & June 17 (3rd Tuesdays)

Family Support Group

Board of Directors

Officers

President: Don Greenwood
Vice Pres.: Harley Sell
Secretary: Michele Wollert

Directors

Chriss Denny
Michael Mattox
Linda Phelan
Nancy Shafton
Loretta Walsh
Lennie Campbell
Nealane Riem

Monthly Meetings

Education Meeting

2nd Tuesday
6:45-8:30 p.m.

Family Support Group

3rd Tuesday
7-8:30 p.m.

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance Group

3rd Thursday
7-9:00 p.m.

MAY

IS

MENTAL

HEALTH

AWARENESS

MONTH



***A Word from
President Don
Greenwood***



“ADVOCACY”

One of **NAMI's** primary purposes as a national organization and county affiliate is Advocacy. It's easy to forget this, because becoming an advocate is a stressful and never-ending endeavor.

For some time, I have been aware of an inner calling to be more of an advocate for the mentally ill and their families. This means taking a stand, calling attention to needs for improved services, and bravely pointing to institutional neglect.

I had set the time for my more active advocacy, when our new Executive Director, Janice McKenzie settled into her position. Others tell Janice and me this usually takes six months. Now I realize I cannot wait. I receive too many phone calls, and hear too many pleas for help at support groups.

Some have asked me when I will start traveling to Olympia as an advocate. My reply has been and is, so much still needs to be done here in Clark County.

We do have a very good mental health provider system here in Clark County. We are proud and grateful for this. It has to be near the top in Washington State.

However, in recent years I've repeatedly heard from parents of children under 18, about the lack of child psychiatrists and inpatient treatment facilities. I've been told numerous times, especially in recent months, there is a crisis involving adult inpatient involuntary admissions. Parents and spouses in tears have shared the turmoil they and their loved ones have endured. Mentally ill prisoners in Clark County Jail are at times not considered ill by jail staff. Several mothers have complained that their son's stated diagnosis was ignored.

It's not easy for medical centers and jails to serve the seriously mentally ill. It's a challenge for systems already under great financial stress. We of NAMI need to realize this, but at the same time become proactive concerning child and adult inpatient, outpatient services, and mentally ill jail occupants.

I've already realized calling attention to the above urgent needs is not met with quick response or hearty agreement. Throughout history this is nothing new, advocates and prophets have been unpopular in their day.

I'm reaching out in this article to you as members of NAMI-Clark County, for your participation in advocacy. If you prefer to travel with others to Olympia for legislative advocacy, great. You have my support and gratitude. If you wish to join me for local advocacy here in Clark County, please

Sincerely yours,

Don Greenwood

Don Greenwood, President
NAMI-Clark County

NAMI CLARK COUNTY ANNOUNCES "FUN"D RAISERS

All-You-Can Eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast



**HAZELDELL
816 NE 98th Circle
Vancouver, WA 98665**

**Saturday, May 17th
8:30 - 10:30 AM**

Enjoy a delicious **Pancake and Sausage Breakfast** including Coffee or Tea for only **\$5.00**.

Your entire donation will be used by **NAMI-Clark County** to support and educate family members and consumers in our community.

Applebee's staff and volunteers and friends of NAMI-Clark County will be serving you.

SEE YOU ALL THERE!!



*In partnership with
NAMI Oregon*

NAMIWalks for the Mind of America

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Registration: 12 pm

Walk: 1pm

*Vera Katz Esplanade
SE Water Ave & Hawthorne Blvd
Portland, OR*

*For information and registration contact:
Lennie Campbell, Clark County Coordinator
360-624-3288 - Lennie@TeamUnivera.Biz*

Girls Night Out

Friday, June 6, 2008 - 7:00 PM

Hosted by:

*Lennie Campbell, Fundraising Chair
at her home*

Come for a light dinner & dessert and an evening of being pampered! There will be foot massages, facials, and an array of goodies to help you look and feel your best.

\$10 charge at the door

Also available will be

» **SILPADA®**

find yourself in it™

A line of Sterling Silver jewelry using only .925 Sterling Silver and a variety of stones and materials. See silpada.com

All proceeds go to NAMI-Clark County

Call Lennie Campbell to RSVP and directions:
360-624-3288



REPORT From NAMI Clark County Board of Directors

March Meeting:

- CPA from Oregon, John Brams, will be consulting with NAMI office staff to in accounting matters due to the resignation of the Treasurer.
- Don Greenwood, Janice McKenzie and Anna Burden have been approved as new check signers.
- Options are being explored to serve as a reliable computer consulting service on an “as-needed basis” which would be more cost effective than the current monthly contract service which is being terminated the end of April, 2008.
- On March 14th at 11:00, Don and Janice reported they will be attending a meeting with Brad Berry of CVAB and Pat Roe, Family Support Specialist at the Clark County Community Services Building to further discuss the same concerns of limited mental health inpatient services.

April Meeting:

- Options were presented for replacing the printer. The existing printer is no longer working and can not be repaired for less than purchasing or leasing another printer. Michael will do a cost analysis of his findings and the board will make a decision promptly.
- Janice will attend CIT April 28, 29, 30 and Nancy Shafton will attend May 1 & 2.
- Janice is searching for more office volunteers – organization of booklets and brochures, and for making copies (e.g. office support for volunteer teachers).
- A General volunteer login for the computer in the office has been created
- Three candidates will be sent for training as facilitators for Family 2 Family classes to be held in Oregon. Washington is planning training sessions in the fall.
- Lennie Campbell advised that she joined the Chamber of Commerce as a NAMI representative.

Note: The Monthly Board of Director Meeting is held the first Tuesday of each month 7:00 PM at the NAMI office.

"In Our Own Voice"

Many thanks to Carolyn Condon, Cindy Falter, Mary Phelan, Heidi Johnson and Sandy Johnson for giving of their time and talents to give IOOV presentations to Clark College nursing program every quarter, NAMI Family to Family class, Prairie High School students, and Clark County Community Health Center.

They are true stigma busters. Their presentations help others see that people with mental illness (brain disorders) are people first and their health concerns are secondary. And that people with mental illness do survive and recover. They can and do participate in their own recovery with help from family, friends, counselors, community resources, spiritual, mental health professionals and medications. It has been said it takes a village to raise a child.....It takes a village to help our loved ones with mental illness.

We were sorry to hear one of our IOOV presenters, Bev Reimester, passed away. She will be missed.

Glenna Ehrlich, 2007 IOOV Facilitator



We want to acknowledge the loyal service that Mary Kay Baranske provided during her stint as office manager for NAMI-Clark County. With the recent hiring of a full time Executive Director, Mary Kay's position is no longer available. She has our sincere gratitude for her service, dedication and the many hours spent serving the people of NAMI Clark County. Mary Kay's positive attitude and generous spirit was a highlight for us all, so be sure to say "Thank you" in person if you see her at one of our upcoming functions or volunteer events.

IN OTHER WORDS ----

A word from our sponsors

KUNI Cadillac
DONATES \$2,500.00 TO
NAMI ANNUAL
HOLIDAY CONSUMER
CELEBRATION!

NAMI CHUCK A PUCK
EVENT RAISES \$860.00
AT ICE HOCKEY GAME
FOR NAMI ANNUAL
HOLIDAY CONSUMER
CELEBRATION

NAMI May Program

Jen Matheson
Department of Community Services
Housing Connections

Housing Connections is a web-based community service that is intended to better connect providers of housing and housing services to renters who are looking for these types of housing opportunities. Their goal is to provide access to up-to-date housing information with user-friendly tools.

NAMI JUNE Program

Diana Phillips
Wellness Project

The project aims to help decrease homelessness, unemployment and use of emergency rooms. People who currently do not meet access eligibility for the public mental health system or who do not have private insurance are eligible to apply for services at the Wellness Project.

Do you want to work and keep you Federal and State benefits?
SSI, SSDI, MEDICARE, MEDICAID, HWD and MORE

Schedule Appointments with A Work Incentives Planning Specialist

CVAB

Consumer Voices Are Born, Inc.

Thursday's 1 – 4 PM
Center for Community Health

1601 E Fourth Plain Blvd, Vancouver
Building 17, Suite A114
Vancouver, WA 98661
360-360-397-8050

Summary of Mental Health Legislation

As of **April 8**, 2008 per www.leg.wa.gov

HOUSE BILL	STATUS/COMMENTS
SHB 2654 (Hinkle) Creating a process for certifying community-based mental health services	Governor signed HB 2654 - 2007-08 NAMI and Wash State Coalition of Clubhouses pro
SHB 2674 (Barlow) Modifying credentialing standards for counselors.	Governor signed HB 2674 - 2007-08 NAMI Pro
ESSB 5959 (Hargrove) Transitional Housing Operating and Rental Assistance (THOR)	Governor signed Funded 2.5m in the final operating budget SB 5959 - 2007-08 NAMI pro, as individuals (such as people with mental illness) would become eligible for housing assistance
SB 6313 (McAuliffe) Recognizing disability history in the public education system.	Passed by the House, back to the Senate for possible concurrence with amendments SB 6313 - 2007-08 NAMI pro
SB 6333 (Keiser) Establishing a citizens work group on health care	Governor signed SB 6333 - 2007-08 Needs to be monitored Calls for a work group to examine, among other things, a bare bones health plan offering (without mental health benefits, e.g.). During the interim may need to make sure the work group hears opposition to such a proposed offering.
SB 6404 (Hargrove) Modifying the process for designating regional support networks.	Governor signed - SB 6404 - 2007-08
SSB 6583 (Brandland) Changing provisions relating to eligibility for medical assistance	Governor signed - SB 6583 - 2007-08 NAMI & State Psychiatric Association Pro
SB 6628 (Prentice) Clarifying the state's ability to recover from defendants the cost of mental health treatment provided at state hospitals	Governor signed
SB 6665 (Hargrove) Intensive case management and integrated crisis response pilots	Governor signed with a partial veto - SB 6665 - 2007-08 This bill extends the life of two pilot programs authorized by the Legislature in 2005, the Intensive Case Management and the Integrated Crisis Response pilots. Section 4 provides the Department of Social and Health Services with the authority to expand the number of intensive crisis response pilots. Vetoing this section allows time for the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to adequately study the effectiveness of these programs prior to making a determination on whether to expand their availability.
SB 6739 (Franklin) Granting authority to psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioners	Governor signed - SB 6739 - 2007-08
SSB 6791 (Hargrove) Clarifying permitted uses of sales tax increase for mental health & substance abuse treatment	Governor signed - SB 6791 - 2007-08 NAMI Pro. Provides that these monies may be used to replace relevant federal cuts, and specifies certain services eligible for this funding



MEMBERSHIP DUES

ANNUAL DUES - \$35.00

DONATION \$ _____

No one is refused membership due to economic hardship. Some scholarships are available.

★ We are a registered non-profit organization 501(C)(3) and donations are tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Membership Includes:

- ★ NAMI National Advocate Magazine, Quarterly
- ★ NAMI Washington Friday Facts, weekly e-mail by request
- ★ NAMI Clark County Newsletter, bi-monthly

Please return your payment and completed form to:

NAMI Clark County
P.O. Box 5353
Vancouver, WA 98668