



2008 NAMI Connection Training of State Trainers

NAMI Connection held its first training of state trainers last month in St. Louis. This monumental event included 38 trainers from 13 states, and this pioneer group was nothing less than stellar! The training took place over three days in St. Louis, and included several workshops. Trainers learned about the different elements of adult learning, classroom management, cultural diversity and how to handle challenging situations. In addition to this, the trainers also had a full day of skill development and team building exercises. By the end of the weekend, all of the trainers had developed a strong bond with each other and were fully prepared to run their own trainings. The event was a wonderful success, and we look forward to welcoming another group in October!



Please note that the list below does not correlate with position in the above photograph.

Trainers: Anna Goodwin, Beth Gould, Gretchen Angling, Harriet Kronick, Anthony Holscher, Liz Givens, & Royal Riddick

Key Assistants: Candita Wacker & Laura Sweeney

State Trainers:

Colorado: Joe Petrovich, June M^oWilliams, & Stacey Galka

Connecticut: Barbara-Ann Tuozzolo, Deb Strong, & Kathy Flaherty

Delaware: Don Sheldon, Jill Anglin, & Lisa Carr

Florida: Earl Givens, Jr & Olga Banis

Illinois: Donna Wattenbarger, Michelle Layfield, Vickey Gonzalez, & Virginia Lake

Indiana: Carolyn Forte, Julia Kauffman, & Jim Buchanan

Iowa: Dawn Olsen, Kyle Damman, & Susan Greulich

Kentucky: Janet Massey & Pat Sims

Maryland: Darlene Bedsole, Deneice Valentine, & Mike Plotnick

Mississippi: Bruce Nicholas, Jamie Owens, & Sandra Caron

Missouri: Diane McCauley, Karren Jones, & Sharon Lyons

Ohio: Holly Lee, Jennifer Guthrie, & Lisa Houk

South Carolina: Charles Evans, John Evatt, & Sandra Ledbetter

Testimonials

It is such a blessed relief to meet so many wonderful people who are intelligent and capable, while dealing with a mental illness. All the facilitators have been so fabulous! Thank you so much for this program and giving me hope and the vision of a great future.

Illness and Wellness...the difference in the words are I and WE. When we isolate with our illness, we don't feel well. When we share in a group, we feel well!

I am happy to have reached the place where I let go of the inadequate feelings and can say WOW!



Training Progress

Completed State Trainings: 43

Facilitators Trained: 820

For more information on NAMI Connection:

- Visit www.nami.org/connection
- Call the HelpLine at 1(800) 950-NAMI (6264)
- Send an email to connection@nami.org

Spotlight: Jamie Owens, Facilitator & Mississippi State Trainer



How did you become involved in NAMI Connection? During my last hospitalization I was given a NAMI pamphlet. This was my first step to recovery. Making the call to NAMI and asking for help in the process of change and growth that is needed to live a better life, I began to make a commitment to my recovery. I attended my first Connection meeting. From then on I was hooked.

How has NAMI Connection aided in your own recovery? Stability and a sense of belonging were the first two things I experienced with NAMI. This organization has had a profound affect on my life.



What do you want others to know about NAMI Connection? NAMI Connection is a wonderful and beneficial program to those who have a mental illness. NAMI Connection is nonjudgmental, helps build self confidence, set realistic goals, establish support networks, and offers the tools and knowledge to help prevent relapse.

What other NAMI programs are you involved in? I am a NAMI Connection Facilitator and State Trainer, a Peer to Peer mentor, and a Provider Education Teacher. I am also the NAMI Mississippi representative on the Consumer Council for NAMI National.

Do you have any interesting hobbies? I enjoying collecting movies, postcards, 70's - 80's memorabilia, and rubber ducks. I love rewarding outdoor activities such as swimming, biking, camping, and river rafting. Poetry writing, music, scrapbooking, and photography intrigue and captivate my creative side.



Monthly Facilitator Calls

NAMI Connection Field Managers hold a monthly teleconference call for the facilitators in each state covering a wide variety of topics. Please contact the field manager for your state for more information.

IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI, & WV

- Anna Goodwin, 1 (866) 446-8433 or agoodwin@nami.org

AL, AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, LA, MD, MS, NC, PR, SC, & TN

- Gretchen Anglin, 1 (800) 985-2958 or gmeyer@nami.org

AK, AZ, CO, CT, KS, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, TX, & VT

- Harriet Kronick, 1 (877) 400-2092 or hkronick@nami.org

CA, HI, ID, MY, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY

- Beth Gould, 1 (866) 461-4569 or bgould@nami.org

Are you interested in being a champion for NAMI Connection?

To find out more about what a champion does and how to become one, contact your state office or email connection@nami.org.

Are you coming to the Annual NAMI Convention in Orlando, FL? Look for NAMI

Connection events and activities taking place over the weekend, including workshops, a symposium, and a luncheon for everyone involved with the program! Visit our NAMI Land booth or www.nami.org/convention for more details.

Upcoming Facilitator Trainings:



Nebraska (Omaha): May 30-June 1

Arizona (Tucson): June 27-29

Arkansas (Little Rock): July 11-13

Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh): July 25-27

What's Happening in NAMI Education

NAMI Basics: Teacher trainings have been completed in the first nine states selected to bring NAMI Basics to their communities: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Utah. A total of 139 parents or other primary caregivers have been trained to teach the program in their state, nineteen classes have been completed. Nine additional states will host teacher trainings in the fall: Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana and Wisconsin.

Family-to-Family: At Training of Trainers, Family-to-Family trained 53 trainers from 25 states. Family support group graduated 35 trainers from 17 states, Virgin Islands, and British Columbia, Canada.

In Our Own Voice (IOOV): In Our Own Voice just completed the annual Training of Trainers in April, graduating 26 new IOOV state trainers from 17 different states. This year at Convention, we will offer a demonstration IOOV presentation with tips on how to get the program started in states/affiliates. We will also be premiering the IOOV Spanish video at the Institute during Convention.

Peer-to-Peer: Peer to Peer has completed three pilots for the Persona a Persona Spanish recovery course. The final pilot class will be taking off soon in New York City. We also recently launched our Class Listing System, which will allow people to view upcoming classes in their area on the Peer to Peer website: www.nami.org/p2p.

For more information on all NAMI education programs, please visit www.nami.org, click on Find Support, and go to the Education, Training, and Peer Support Center.

