



Open your mind, mental illness is a brain disorder.

“And the beat goes on. Yeah, the beat goes on.”

- Sonny & Cher

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

NAMI GREENVILLE RECOGNIZED AT NATIONAL CONVENTION!

Jim and Glenda Hayes, twenty other South Carolinians, and I attended the NAMI National Convention in Washington, DC from Tuesday, June 29 to Sunday, July 4, 2010.

My first duty was to attend the National Consumer Council meeting on Tuesday night. NAMI President Mike Fitzpatrick delivered the opening address. Executive committee members were elected and Mike Weaver (NAMI-NC) was elected to the National Board of Directors as the Consumer Council representative. Then several awards were made to individuals and state Consumer Councils for their work to improve the lives of consumers.

On Wednesday, I attended a variety of Education, Training, and Peer Support meetings for local and state Program Directors. But the day's highlight was attending a Capitol Hill reception in the Senate Caucus Room, one of the most historic and grand rooms of the Russell Senate Office Building. NAMI presented awards to six Senators and Representatives for their support of mental health legislation. Senator Chris Dodd delivered the concluding and most dynamic of the speeches.

On Thursday, twenty delegates from SC went from one Congressional office to another lobbying for three mental health bills. We were well received at every office either by staff or by Congressmen Clyburn, Inglis, Barrett, and Wilson personally. We had our pictures taken with them in the Capitol building or on the steps. The height of the day came when we left the House Majority Whip's office and met Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi in a private hallway of the Capitol building.

Friday involved several plenary sessions on research and medicine. On Saturday, I attended the Annual Business Meeting, the Exhibit Hall, and two "Ask-the-Doctor" sessions. At its early morning meeting on July 3, the NAMI Board elected officers for the 2010-11 year. Guyla Daley of Charleston, SC was reelected Treasurer.

The most surprising event of the Convention occurred at Saturday night's Closing Banquet. Dr. Ken Duckworth, Medical Director for NAMI, served as the Master of Ceremonies. He began his opening comments to the effect, "Listen to the news report of Angela Rodriguez of WYFF-TV in Greenville, SC. After the NAMI Greenville Walk, a young couple was interviewed. They had learned that their 8-year old son had been diagnosed with bipolar disorder. The reporter wrote, 'When families can't get the help they need from the government, many of them turn to NAMI Greenville.' The mother said, 'I can't imagine life without NAMI. I thank God for NAMI. It changed our lives.'"

No one in SC knew this was coming, and NAMI Greenville was the only affiliate recognized the entire evening! After the closing, NAMI SC Executive Director Bill Lindsey, the Hayes', and I had an opportunity to thank Dr. Duckworth for the singular recognition.

I thank NAMI Greenville, South Carolina, and National for these many wonderful experiences.

Fletcher Mann
Program Director

THANK YOU!!

...to the Greer Police Department, Taco Parrilla and Head Chef Daniel Dobbs, for hosting a night of delicious food on Monday, July 26, and much needed support for Cops for Tots and NAMI Greenville!

EDUCATIONAL COURSES & SUPPORT GROUPS

AUGUST 9 AND SEPTEMBER 13 EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS!

On August 9, Jim and Glenda Hayes and Fletcher Mann will tell us about some of the important information and events coming out of the NAMI National Convention held in Washington, DC. “Enriching the Experience of Recovery,” “Altering the Course of Schizophrenia,” “Improving Outcomes by Integrating Mental Health in Primary Care,” “Modern-day Mood Stabilizers,” “Ask-the-Doctor,” and “Pool-side Light Therapy” are some of the topics to be discussed.

On September 13, Sheryl Sparks, a NAMI Connection Trainer and Facilitator, and Nancy Richey, a Certified Peer Mentor, will speak to us about South Carolina SHARE’s Recovery Manual and the STAR Mentor program. Education, hope, and support about the process of recovery and learning healthy ways to live are part of SC SHARE’s mission. Continuing Education Units are available for health providers.



NAMI SC Annual State Training

November 11-14, 2010 at
White Oak Conference Center,
Winnsboro, SC. Call
Fletcher if you have an interest
in applying for training.

YOU CAN MAKE LIFE BETTER!

Please remember NAMI Greenville in your annual giving and planning. We are a South Carolina not-for-profit corporation with IRS 501(c)(3) status. Thus, contributions are tax deductible. NAMI South Carolina has been designated by the SC Secretary of State as an “Angel,” and NAMI National is a BBB Certified Charity.

NAMI Greenville operates 11 nationally recognized programs that have helped thousands of consumers, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and law enforcement officials here in the Upstate.

So, from top to bottom, NAMI has an outstanding mission, great programs, and an efficient organization. Your contributions go a long way, and are greatly appreciated.

MEMBERSHIPS

At the same time I’m writing this I’m asking myself if I’ve paid this year’s membership dues. I think to myself, “ I have \$5 on me so I’ll go ahead and pay them .” Then I think of the things I need to do this week and suddenly \$5 is a lot of money! It’s almost two gallons of gas, or a frozen dinner, and I need those things! Then I think about what would happen if NAMI wasn’t available to me and I immediately pay my \$5 dues! In short, I’m investing in my future mental health and well-being.

The fact is that memberships, donations and fundraisers are the life-blood of NAMI Greenville. We simply cannot continue providing our FREE programs and support groups without your help. So please make sure your dues are paid, \$35 for Regular Membership; \$5 for Consumers who cannot afford a Regular Membership and if you are not a member, please think about becoming one.

***Family-to-Family Educational Course
August 24 - November 16, 2010
Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 9 p.m., in Taylors.***

This free educational course consists of a series of 12 classes for families of persons with psychiatric disorders. The course balances basic education about the disorders along with skill training, self-care, emotional support and empowerment.

Pre-registration required. Call the NAMI office at 331-3300.

NAMI Support Groups include “**Connection**” for adults with a diagnosed mental illness; “**Caregivers**” for adults living with adults with mental illness; “**Parents**” for parents of school children with mental illness; and “**Teens**” for teenagers with mental illness.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT WWW.NAMIGREENVILLESC.ORG.

HERE'S WHAT'S GOING ON

RESOURCE INFORMATION

NAMI Greenville tries to keep up-to-date information on various resources in our area (mental health literature, lists of therapists, doctors, clinics, hospitals, discount prescription programs, human service agencies, and attorneys) that might be of help to our members. We even have a small library of books and tapes.

One area in which we are lacking is that of individual life and health insurance coverage. We know of only one private life insurance company and one state health insurance program that will write coverage for individuals with a mental diagnosis (call the office if you would like this information).

NAMI does not refer, recommend, or endorse any particular product or service. We only pass on information related to mental health issues that comes available to us so that our members can investigate and judge for themselves. It's a place to start. If you have information that will be of benefit to our consumers and families, please let us know and we will pass it on as requested.



Christmas Tour of Homes December 2, 3 & 4, 2010 Kilgore Plantation



Mark these dates on your calendar because you won't want to miss this festive holiday fundraiser! Join NAMI Greenville as we are invited into some of Greenville's grandest homes decked out in all their holiday finery.

Tickets for this inaugural event are \$20 per person. There will be a pre-tour party Thursday evening, December 2 at one of the Kilgore homes. Tickets are \$50 per person and include heavy hors d'oeuvres, desserts and beverage and a tour through the homes.

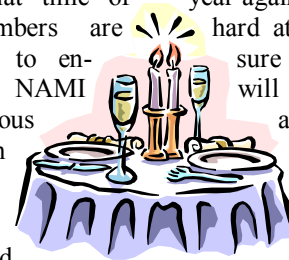
For tickets and more information contact Lynn Terry or Susan Kline at 787-2804

6th Annual Dining for NAMI October 15 at Embassy Suites

Yes, it's that time of year again and our committee members are hard at work making preparations to ensure this year's Dining for NAMI will be more fun, more fabulous and more successful than ever!

We still have tables available for those of you who would like to host. Please get your guest list to the committee by August 10. You can also buy individual tickets for \$35 per person.

For more information on how you can participate in this year's event, please contact committee members Lynn Terry or Susan Cline at 787-2804.



NAMI SC Annual Convention

October 22-23, 2010

Embassy Suites in Columbia, SC.

Reception and awards on Friday night.

Convention seminars, luncheon and keynote speaker on Saturday. Come for the day, one night, or two nights. Past conferences have had excellent speakers on medicines, other therapies, research, consumer rights, etc. With the state capitol, university, medical school, and law school in Columbia, we expect equally good programs this year. Register at www.namisc.org.

REACHING THOSE IN NEED

Are you going to the doctor this week? Would you be willing to take some NAMI literature with you for the doctor's lobby? We have found many doctors' offices willing to put NAMI literature in their lobbies, especially when it is a patient who asks. Psychiatrists' offices are particularly appreciative of having the material, but general physicians are interested as well. And you reach people who are in need and seeking help.

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NAMI Greenville

2320 E. North St., Ste. L, Greenville, SC 29607

NAMI Monthly Support Groups

Every Monday at 6:15 p.m.

Connection & Caregivers Support Groups
Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Road, Greenville, SC.

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Connection Support Group
First Presbyterian Church
200 W. Washington St., Greenville, SC.

Educational Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian.

Support Groups/Events

August 9	All Support Groups Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.: A glimpse of the NAMI National Convention.	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
August 11	Connection Support Group	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
August 16	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
August 17	Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Spartanburg
August 24	Family-to-Family Educational Course begins in Taylors		
August 23	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
August 25	Connection Support Group	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
August 30	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
August 30	NAMI Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	Tri-City Baptist Church, Easley
September 6	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
September 8	Connection Support Group	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
September 13	All Support Groups Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.: Sheryl Sparks, SC Share STAR Mentor	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
September 20	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
September 21	Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Spartanburg
September 22	Connection Support Group	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
September 27	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
September 30	NAMI Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	Tri-City Baptist Church, Easley
October 4	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
October 11	All Support Groups Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.: TBA	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church