



National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI Greenville

Open your mind, mental illness is a brain disorder.

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Remember, when you're out on a limb the world is at your feet!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Many of you have asked what is happening relative to the Andrew Torres incident. And many of you have asked how you can help.

First, we have given our support to the family through visits, phone calls, and cards of sympathy, and we have let them know of the memorial gifts made to NAMI-Greenville in memory of Andrew.

Secondly, we have worked with NAMI-SC and the SC Department of Mental Health to get Greenville City Police Officers into NAMI's Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). Greenville Police dispatchers and critical office personnel will take two hours' training October 13 and 29. Greer and Greenville officers will take 40 hours' training October 18-22. Greenville officers will again take 40 hours' training February 21-25, 2011. We will provide speakers and role players on October 21-22 and February 24-25. Around the state, training will be held in Anderson, Clemson, Charleston, and other cities during these months.

Third, our Board President Harriet Van Hale, MD, has sent a letter and package of CIT information to the mayors and chiefs of police for Fountain Inn, Mauldin, Simpsonville, and Travelers Rest. She will soon be sending a letter to Greenville County Sheriff Steve Loftis, who has been supportive in the past.

Fourth, we have issued news releases to the media and have given interviews that appeared on WYFF (Angela Rodriguez) and in the Greenville News (Paul Alongi). Both of them have been very supportive.

Fifth, our speaker at the Educational Meeting on Monday, October 11th at 7:30pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church will be Sgt. Chad Richardson of the Greer City Police Department speaking about what CIT has meant to their department. We will have an opportunity for people to sign up to serve as role players at the crisis intervention training on Friday, October 22 in Greer.

What can you do? Make your voices heard.

We can send you a PDF file with the news releases, letter, and enclosures that have gone out asking our local officials to institute crisis intervention training. We can send you the names and contact information for the mayors and chiefs of police who received the letter.

You may use these as a springboard for your own phone calls, letters, and emails to those officials and the media. We urge you to advocate for CIT and funding for mental health services. The best way to do that is to **tell your story**.

You might want to go to each city's website to see if there are council members, city administrators, or police training officers you know who might be receptive to our message.

You, your families, and friends can sign up for role playing at the crisis intervention training on Friday, October 22 in Greer.

Keep coming to our support groups and education courses to share your expertise. You have been "in the trenches," and are experts in your fields. There are so many other people who can benefit from that.

And keep our NAMI family in your prayers. You are certainly in ours.

We thank you for all you do.

Kelly A. Troyer
Executive Director

Fletcher Mann
Program Director

THANK YOU!!

To TEAM Morgan for taking on the overwhelming task of updating NAMI Greenville's membership!

EDUCATIONAL COURSES & SUPPORT GROUPS

Education Courses:

- Peer-to-Peer ended August. The teachers agreed that the new third edition is better than the past edition, and they look forward to teaching again in early 2011. Let the office know if you want to take the next course.
- Family-to-Family began August 24 at Taylors First Baptist Church with an overflow crowd. This course meets for 12 sessions of 2 ½ hours each. Call the office if you want to attend the next course in early 2011.
- “Basics” for the parents of school age children with a mental illness started on Tuesday, September 21 for six classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cindy Troyer, Lonnie Pearson, and Nancy Richey teach the course and they are taking registrations for the next class. Call 331-3300.
- Crisis Intervention Training will be very active over the next 5-6 months. Greenville Police dispatchers and critical office personnel will take two hours’ training October 13 and 29. Greer and Greenville officers will take 40 hours’ training October 18-22. Greenville officers will again take 40 hours’ training February 21-25, 2011. We will provide speakers and role players on October 21-22 and February 24-25. Around the state, training will be held in Anderson, Clemson, Charleston, and other cities during these months.

Support Groups:

- Caregivers: continues each Monday at 6:15 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 August Street, Greenville. Attendance averages 8-12 people.
- Connection (for consumers of mental health services): continues each Monday at 6:15 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian. Attendance averages 12-15 people.
- **New Time - Family Support Group:** We have combined our Caregivers and Connection groups into one group at First Presbyterian Church. This gives us a second night for support groups, and people like the idea of hearing different perspectives in one meeting. Note the new meeting day and room: 6:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays starting October 14 and 28 in Room #315 of the church.

NEWS ON MEMBERSHIP

For some time now, NAMI National has had problems in its membership process. NAMI Greenville has continued to keep people on our newsletter list despite the lack of membership dues. National tells us that the problems are now solved. We would greatly appreciate you updating your membership in order to help us pay for our newsletter and the many programs we offer. All of NAMI’s programs are free to attendees, but those programs come at a price. *Please help us defray our costs by renewing your membership and making a donation to NAMI Greenville using the enclosed Membership Form.* See www.namigreenvillesc.org or pick up a membership/donation form at a weekly support group meeting.



NAMI SC Annual Convention will be held Friday through Saturday, October 22-23, 2010 at the 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. Register at www.namisc.org.

NAMI SC Annual State Training will occur Thursday through Sunday, November 11-14, 2010 at White Oak Conference, Winnsboro, SC. If you want to teach a course that you have taken or facilitate a group that you attend regularly, then speak to Fletcher Mann about some of the opportunities. Space is limited, specific qualifications are required for each position, and the state chapter seeks geographic diversity. But the training is rewarding. Our teachers and facilitators are great assets to NAMI and our community as they bring education and support to so many people.

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

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.

Recent and Upcoming Educational Meetings

On August 9, NAMI South Carolina's Executive Director, Bill Lindsey, came from Columbia to speak to us about the National Convention held in Washington, DC in July. He was joined by Jim and Glenda Hayes, who had also attended the convention with about 20 other South Carolinians. Having had the opportunity to meet our Senators and Representatives, they said it was one of the best conventions they had ever attended.

Nancy Richey and Sheryl Sparks made an excellent presentation on SC SHARE's STAR Mentor program at our September 13 Educational Meeting. Mentors help consumers set goals and steps to achieve them; identify strengths, talents, and abilities; and work through a Recovery Planner. Nancy serves as a mentor in Greenville, and Sheryl in Spartanburg. To work with a mentor, see www.sshare.com or call 1-800-832-8032.

At our **Monday, October 11** Educational Meeting, Sgt. Chad Richardson will speak about the Greer Police Department's use of crisis intervention techniques. Greer schedules NAMI's Crisis Intervention Training annually, striving to keep all its officers trained. Join us at **7:30 pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 2310 Augusta St., Greenville.

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

NAMI Spartanburg will open their new office on Monday, October 4th! Debbie West, along with volunteers Gus Guzman, Lori Smith, John Brady, Larry Bishop and Mary Ann Bishop, will be busy forming the organization over the coming month. A Caregiver's Support Group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month, and a Connection Support Group will meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Check the Support Groups/Events Schedule on the back page of this newsletter. NAMI Spartanburg will be sending a number of people to the Annual Training in November and hope to begin offering educational classes and more support groups after the new year.

NAMI Spartanburg is located at 1850 Old Furnace Rd., Boiling Springs, S.C. 29316. The phone number is (864) 541-8522 and you can currently send emails to debrawest@bellsouth.net.

Please remember NAMI Greenville in your United Way giving.

We are not a United Way agency, but we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit recognized by the United Way and you can designate your contribution to go to us. Just put "NAMI Greenville, SC" in the "For" line of your check. You and your company get credit for a contribution, and the United Way passes on the donation. Help NAMI help others.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jackie Waldrop
Advisor



Greenville

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

NAMI Greenville Monthly Support Groups

Connection & Caregivers Support Groups

Every Monday at 6:15 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2310 Augusta Rd.

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

First Presbyterian Church, 200 W. Washington St.

NAMI Spartanburg Monthly Support Groups

Caregiver's - 2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church, 415 S. Pine St.

Connection - 3rd Tuesday at 6 p.m.

St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 101 St. Matthews Ln.

Support Groups/Events

October 4	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
October 11	All Support Groups Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.: Sgt. Chad Richardson, Greer City Police Dept.	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
October 14	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
October 14	Caregivers Support Group	7 p.m.	St. John's Lutheran Church
October 15	6th Annual Dining for NAMI	6 – 10 p.m.	Embassy Suites at Verdae
October 18	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
October 19	Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
October 25	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
October 25	Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	Tri-City Baptist Church, Easley
October 28	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
November 1	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
November 8	All Support Groups Educational Meeting, 7:30 p.m.: Let's see what Fletcher pulls out of his hat!	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
November 11	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:30 p.m.	First Presbyterian Church
November 11	Caregivers Support Group	7 p.m.	St. John's Lutheran Church
November 15	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
November 16	Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
November 22	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
November 25	<i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>		
November 29	Connection & Caregivers Groups	6:15 p.m.	Westminster Presbyterian Church
November 29	Connection Support Group	6 p.m.	Tri-City Baptist Church, Easley