MISSION: To empower persons affected by mental illness and their family members to achieve a better quality of life by providing them with mutual support, practical information, referral, advocacy and educational resources.

NAMIWalks 2016 Cleveland’s largest mental health event attracted more than 1,200 participants and raised more than $128,000 for NAMI Greater Cleveland’s programs and services. We are grateful to everyone who made this year’s event a success, including our Sponsors, Donors, Team Captains, Walkers, Volunteers, and those of you who participated in our inaugural banner contest. We couldn’t do it without you!

Thank you to our Walk Teams and dedicated Team Captains

* raising more than $1K
- Our Story is Not Over/Amanda Klemm
- ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County/Katie Boland
- Alkermes All-Stars/Laura Vesco
- Beautiful Minds/Kelly Levicky
- Beech Brook/Carrie Tulino-Bell
- Benjamin Rose/Jeanne Hoban
- Better Days/Denise Ross
- Buckeye Health Plan and Envolve Health/
  Amber Bundy
- CASP-Cleveland Association of School Psychologist/Valorie Wolcott
- CBHC: Community Behavioral Health Center/
  Ritu Chattree
- The Centers for Families and Children/Kelley Kauffman*
- Charak Center: We Bring You Hope!/Anish Ranjan
- Cleveland Champs!/Bonnie Ziganti
- Cleveland Clinic Behavioral Health/Dan Karchmer*
- Cleveland Psychological Association/April Sobieralski
- CloudWater Zendo/Lisa Bohlander
- Compeer Far West Center Wellness Walkers/
  Denise Ayres
- Connections: Health*Wellness*Advocacy/Mark Johnson
- Creative Minds/Madeline Calhoun
- Dream Team/Abby McPherson
- Drech Team/Ellen Richm*
- Edward Fighters/Jill Edwards
- Freud’s Army/Madison Bean*
- The Freudian Slips/Sara West
- FrontLine Service/Misty Funk
- Given to Fly/Gretchen Stout
- Henrys/Eric Warren
- HopeWell/Candace Carlton
- Kari’s Hopeful Friends/Kari Kepic
- Know Your Worth/Iyanna Washington
- Lambda Phi Omega
- Lutheran Hospital Team/Brian Tilow*
- Magnolia Clubhouse/Sarah Stephens
- Mandalas/Elizabeth Bryan
- Medina Stigmabusters/Ruth Simon*
- Metro Mental Menders/Marlaa Foden and
  Kirsten Hemmer
- MH Warriors/Vicki Reich
- Miracle for Michael/Carlaunesa Upenesja
- Mitchell/Jacqueline Mitchell
- Mom’s Helping Hand/Ebony Dbewery
- The Motley Mental Crew/Jaime Lynn Smith
- Murits Taylor Family Support Network/
  Danyelle Simpkins*

Top 10 Fundraisers
Barbara Moore - $2,100
Don Sykes - $1,791
Ben Miladin - $1,485
Lulu & Joel Gottesman - $1,345
Madison Bean - $1,300
Kenneth Alexander - $1,276
Mark Weintraub - $1,136
Thomas Swales - $1,100
Michael Baskin - $1,025
Esther Jones - $1,010
Tim Aria - $1,000

Top 10 Teams
UH Department of Psychiatry and Friends/Daphne Ferrer - $5,689
Cleveland Clinic Behavioral Health/Dan Karchmer - $5,301
PsychBC/Alex D’Auria - $4,052
Team Carolyn/Katie Jerome - $3,201
Freud’s Army/Madison Bean - $2,805
Team Banco Young/Anne Schleicher and Christie Young - $2,780
The Centers for Families and Children/Kelley Kauffman - $2,620
Lutheran Hospital Team/Brian Tilow - $2,168
Medina Stigmabusters/Ruth Simon - $1,890
Team JWJ/James Watson - $1,700
Oldies But Goodies/Liz Krull - $1,569

Views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writers and not necessarily those of our officers, staff or funding sources.
It’s hard to believe we’ve left the summer behind already. Where does the time go? It seems as if we were just planning for last spring’s conference on Healing and Trauma and getting ready for the August Walk, and here it is, two months past all that, and now here we are getting ready for the holiday party, next year’s conference, and the 2017 Walk.

My thanks to all of you who came out to support NAMI on August 27, more than 1200, and what a morning it was! The day was filled with moving testimonials, companionship, and beautiful weather. I was particularly pleased to see how people expressed their support for one another and made this NAMIWalks what it is truly meant to be, an awareness and advocacy event for our community, celebrating recovery and healing. We’re so grateful to all those who were generous in turning out that day, donating their time and making such significant contributions to the 14th annual NAMIWalks.

NAMI GC’s second annual conference is scheduled for May 5, 2017. A committee already has begun planning, and the venue, Holiday Inn Independence, will remain the same as it was last year. As in 2016, we will combine the conference with our Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at noon. The conference will include both a Keynote address and breakout sessions. CEUs will be available for mental health professionals attending.

**GREEN SHOES AND FRIDAY NITE LITES-BRINGING MENTAL ILLNESS OUT OF THE SHADOWS**

NAMI Greater Cleveland, NAMI Lake County, and NAMI Geauga County have joined together on a project funded by NAMI Ohio to bring awareness about mental health to Northeast Ohio. Our project, which was spearheaded by Kari Kepic, NAMI GC’s Helpline Coordinator, is an inventive awareness project to ensure mental illness and health are brought to the forefront as a major public health issue in our three counties. The project will borrow from a professional football player, Brandon Marshall, who, while playing for the Chicago Bears in 2013, wore green shoes with pink laces to bring awareness to the nation during Mental Illness Awareness Week. Not only did he draw attention to the issue by wearing green shoes, but, most importantly, by talking about his own struggle with Borderline Personality Disorder, he gave significant meaning to the event. In addition, he was fined $10,500 for defying the NFL’s uniform policy, giving the event even more notoriety. His calculated risk then went viral, as we hope to do when our three counties put on similar events at high school football games in Northeast Ohio this fall. Here’s what we’re planning...

Each of the affiliates will sponsor two football teams whose players will wear green socks or jerseys to highlight awareness about Mental Illness. In addition, we will give away gifts to spectators the night of the game that draw attention to mental health, such as green footballs, t-shirts, and wristbands. In this way, we broaden our capacity to take the message to students and families in attendance. Pre-game activities will include NAMI affiliates at pep rallies and at games to distribute literature with those giveaways. Part of the halftime show at each game will be devoted to recognizing mental health, perhaps having school administrators, teachers, parents and legislators speak and draw attention to the meaning of the event. Our hope is that this will be a “kickoff” to other awareness event(s) and become an annual activity in the fall at each of the schools, and that it will further expand next year in different schools. In Cuyahoga County, we worked with Valley Forge and Bay Village High Schools whose football teams squared off on Friday, October 21 at Parma’s Byers Field.

**HYGIENE KITS TO BROADWAY’S RETURNING CITIZENS**

In partnership with the Integrated Care Reentry Project (ICRP), a program of MetroHealth’s Broadway Clinic and The Murtis Taylor Human Services System, NAMI GC and members of Alpha Kappa Alpha will purchase, assemble, and distribute hygiene and mental health “kits” for citizens returning to Cleveland's Broadway neighborhood. Most of these residents have a severe mental illness and have recently been released from jail to face unknown circumstances on a daily basis. The kits will include toiletries, clothing items, and information about mental health services. ICRPs goal is to integrate mental health care and substance abuse treatment through the innovative use of care coordinators and case managers. We’re pleased to partner with MetroHealth and Murtis Taylor in this very important project. This is a great opportunity for NAMI GC to reach out to these residents, inviting them to be a part of our community and provide them with resources as they return to their neighborhoods. Thanks to Thom Craig, Director of the Mental Health Program, and the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation for providing financial assistance.

**DEDICATED MENTAL HEALTH LEVY**

NAMI GC will have a lead role in exploring the potential for a dedicated Mental Health Levy in Cuyahoga County. This would be a way to secure local government funding to provide sustainability and additional funding for individuals and families affected by mental illness. Currently, the ADAMHS board of Cuyahoga County (ADAMHS) receives funding through the Health and Human Services Levy (HHS), which supports a variety of social services. Voters have generously supported the HHS levy for a number of years. The effort for a dedicated levy would specifically designate funding for mental health. A long term levy would guarantee our capacity to provide services for years to come. Currently, we have to go to voters every several years. While a number of counties in Ohio already have a designated levy for mental health, Cuyahoga County is unique, and the politics of navigating a specific levy in the current political and economic environment needs to be done very carefully to consider the widest range of stakeholders. To secure a dedicated MH Levy in Cuyahoga County would be a way to find some security in an insecure
economic environment. We’re at a very early stage in the initial planning, and it is likely that a ballot initiative would not be considered until after the year 2020. Cuyahoga County Council President Dan Brady, past president of NAMI OH, NAMI Metro Cle, and The ADAMHS Board, Harvey Snider, and William Denihan, CEO of the ADAMHS Board, are each helping to lead the initiative. I have been asked to sit on the Strategic Planning Committee of the Levy Committee. I’ll keep you posted as to our progress.

LEGISLATION:
WHERE WE STAND NOW
Federal Mental Health Reform
Following the near unanimous passage of Rep Tim Murphy’s H.R. 2646 (Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2016) in the U.S. House of Representatives in July, NAMI Ohio mental health reform advocates have been contacting U.S. Senator Rob Portman (R-Ohio) to ask him to urge U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) to schedule the Senate’s version of mental health reform – S. 2680 (Mental Health Reform Act of 2016) for a vote by the full Senate before the end of the year. After receiving numerous phone calls and emails from NAMI Ohio advocates, Senator Portman’s staff informed NAMI Ohio that he had signed onto S. 2680 as an official cosponsor!

Since our advocacy is working, it is a good idea to reach out to Senator Portman’s office (Call 202-224-3353) and to thank him for co-sponsoring S. 2680, and to ask him again to “urge Senate Majority Leadership to forge a compromise on the pending amendments, and to schedule the bill for a vote by the full U.S. Senate.” You should also contact Senator Sherrod Brown’s office and ask him to “become an official cosponsor of S. 2680 (Call 202-224-2315) and urge Senate Minority Leadership to reach a compromise on pending amendments to clear a path for passage of the bill.”

Ohio Statehouse Legislation
State Representative Sarah LaTourette’s (R-Bainbridge Twp.) bill to authorize a pharmacist to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs (H.B. 421), including long-acting anti-psychotic medication, passed the Ohio House of Representatives in May of this year. HB 421 was recently referred to the Ohio Senate Health and Human Services Committee for consideration.

Prior to a first hearing on the bill, it was actually added as an amendment to another piece of legislation, SB 332 (related to infant mortality prevention) that is sponsored by Senator Shannon Jones (R–Springboro), the chair of the Ohio Senate Health and Human Services Committee. SB 332 was then passed by the full State Senate on Sep. 28 and is expected to be considered in the Ohio House during the post-election “Lame Duck Session” of the Ohio General Assembly. If SB 332 gets bogged down in the Ohio House, it is likely that the Senate Health and Human Services Committee will hold hearings and favorably report HB 421 as a stand-alone bill so that it can be voted on by the full Ohio Senate during the lame-duck session.

Medical Marijuana
House Bill 523, effective September 8, legalizes marijuana for medical purposes in Ohio. The Ohio Medical Marijuana Control Program will allow people with certain medical conditions, recommended by an Ohio-licensed physician certified by the State Medical Board, to purchase and use marijuana for medical purposes. While the legislation set a basic framework for the program, it left the task of establishing specific rules and guidelines for the cultivation, processing, testing, dispensing, and medical use of marijuana to different state agencies: The Ohio Dept. of Commerce, the State Pharmacy Board, the State Medical Board, and a bipartisan advisory committee. The Ohio Department of Commerce and the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy are required by law to take all actions necessary to ensure that Ohio’s Medical Marijuana Control Program is fully operational no later than September of 2018. At that time, there will be an established structure for Ohioans with a qualifying medical condition to obtain a recommendation for medical marijuana, to purchase medical marijuana from a licensed dispensary, and to consume marijuana for medical purposes.

**Thanks to Dustin J. McKee, Director of Policy at NAMI Ohio, for contributing to information above regarding federal and state legislation.

We look forward to seeing you at the holiday party on December 3rd! Details are included in the newsletter.

Michael, October 2016
mbaskin@namicleveland.org

MAJOR SUPPORT FOR NAMI GC COMES FROM THE FOLLOWING
o ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County
o CareSource Foundation
o George W. Codrington Charitable Foundation
o Community Shares of Greater Cleveland
o Community West Foundation
o Frank Hadley and Cornelia Root Ginn Charitable Trust
o Ingalls Foundation
o Janssen
o Jewish Federation of Cleveland (Selected Donors)
o Lilly
o Elizabeth Ring Mather & William Gwinn Mather Fund
o Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation
o Mt. Sinai Healthcare Foundation
o NAMI (national)
o William and Dorothy O’Neill Foundation
o Stolier Family Foundation
o Talty Charitable Trust
o Ridgecliff Foundation
o William Weiss Foundation
o Woodruff Foundation

Funding Provided by These Generous Organizations Makes it Possible for NAMI GC to Offer its Programs at No Cost to Participants!!!
**Do You Have Videography Experience?**

We are looking for a volunteer with experience in recording and editing to document our community education programs, so that we can post them on our website. Individuals willing to share their skills with NAMI Greater Cleveland should contact Ellen Riehm at 216-875-7776 or eriehm@namicleveland.org.

---

**NAMI Greater Cleveland Call for Nominations**

NAMI Greater Cleveland (NAMI GC) is accepting nominations for outstanding achievement in promoting and providing mental health services for individuals, families and organizations in the year 2016. The awards will be presented at the 2017 NAMI GC's Annual Meeting on May 5. Nominations are being sought for:

- **The Scott Adamson Memorial Peer Award**
  Recognizes a person affected by mental illness who has provided exemplary service on behalf of peers.

- **Mental Health Family/Caregiver Award**
  Recognizes a family member who had excelled in helping loved ones with a mental illness to improve their quality of life.

- **Cultural Competence in Mental Health Award**
  Recognizes a peer, family member, professional or organization that has demonstrated excellence in working with minority populations in the mental health field.

- **Mental Health Provider Award**
  Recognizes a professional who demonstrates outstanding commitment in service to the community on behalf of those with a mental illness.

- **Eugene Brudno Memorial Organization Award**
  Recognizes an organization that provides outstanding service for those with a mental illness and their family members.

- **Teen Mental Health Award**
  Recognizes a high school student or program geared toward high school students and their families that raises awareness of mental illness and reduces stigma.

- **Young Adult Mental Health Award**
  Recognizes a college student or program geared toward college students that raises awareness of mental illness and reduces stigma.

Nominations are due **Sunday, January 22, 2017**. Please send to Executive Director Michael Baskin in care of the NAMI GC offices (2012 West 25th Street, #600, Cleveland, OH 44113) or email (mbaskin@namicleveland.org).

In your recommendation, please include contact information for you and the person/group you are nominating, and explain:

- What contribution did this person or organization make in service to mental health in 2016 that merits recognition?
- What is unique about their contribution and why at this time?
- Tell us a little bit more about this individual/organization.

Please call 216-875-0266 with questions.

---

In honor of National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month (July), NAMI GC visited Kingsbury Towers and hosted children’s activities focused on taking care of our mind, body, and spirit.
**Save the Date**

**Members and Volunteers Holiday Gathering**

Saturday, December 3 • 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Ohio Room at the ADAMHS Board
Main entrée & punch provided
Bring an appetizer or dessert to share
Door prizes and 50/50 raffle.

RSVP by November 30. Call 216-875-7666
For more information call 216- 875-7776

Looking forward to seeing you and ringing in the Holiday spirit!

---

**Planning Ahead**

Consider demonstrating your appreciation for NAMI GCs education, advocacy and public awareness programs by including NAMI GC in your estate plans. Contact your estate planning professional and share the sample language below.

“I, (Name of donor), of (City/State/Zip), give, devise and bequeath to NAMI Greater Cleveland, Cleveland, OH (specific dollar amount or percentage of the estate) for its unrestricted use and purpose.”

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact Lisa DellaFiora with your questions or thoughts about supporting NAMI Greater Cleveland.

---

**Giant Eagle Gift Cards**

Purchase Giant Eagle cards from NAMIGC. Use them to purchase groceries, gas, or other gift cards. NAMI receives 5% of the amount purchased.

---

**NAMI/Giant Eagle Gift Card Order Form**

| ____ $10 Cards | Amount due | $_______ |
| ____ $25 Cards | Amount due | $_______ |
| ____ $50 Cards | Amount due | $_______ |
| ____ $100 Cards | Amount due | $_______ |

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE**

$_________

**$30 Entertainment Books / $28 Our Town and All Around**

**2016 Books**

_____ I will pick up book(s) at the office. Please mail my Book(s). I will include postage.

Number of Entertainment Books _____ x $30.00 .................... $______________

Number of Our Town & All Around Books _____ x $28.00 .............. $______________

Postage & Handling: 1 Book $3.75 2 Books $7.50 ....................... $______________

(more than 2 books call the office) Donation $__________

**TOTAL $__________**

**NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY:** _______________________________  **ZIP:** ___________  **PHONE:** ___________

Make check payable to: NAMI Greater Cleveland
2012 West 25th Street, #600 – Cleveland, OH 44113 fax: 216-861-2574

Credit Cards: [ ] Master Card [ ] Visa [ ] American Express

Credit Card # ________________________________  Expiration Date ___/____

Signature ____________________________________________
Why do drug addiction and mental illness often coexist?

The source document for this Digest states:

There is an increased comorbidity, or co-occurrence, of substance dependence in individuals who have mental illness as compared to individuals without any mental disorder. This indicates either a shared neurobiological basis for both, or an interaction of effects at some level. Research on the origins of both mental illnesses and substance dependence will help to shed light on treatment and prevention strategies for both. There are several hypotheses as to why mental illness and substance dependence may co-occur:

- There may be a similar neurobiological basis to both;
- Substance use may help to alleviate some of the symptoms of the mental illness or the side effects of medication;
- Substance use may precipitate mental illnesses or lead to biological changes that have common elements with mental illnesses.

There is some evidence for all of these hypotheses. It is interesting that the effects of many psychoactive substances can produce psychiatric-like syndromes. For example, amphetamines and cocaine can induce psychotic-like symptoms. Hallucinogenic substances can produce hallucinations, which are an aspect of some psychoses. Furthermore, psychoactive substances regularly alter mood states, producing either euphoric and happy feelings, or inducing depressive symptoms, especially during substance withdrawal. Psychoactive substances can alter cognitive functioning, which is also a core feature of many mental illnesses. These factors all suggest common neurobiological substrates to both mental illnesses and substance dependence.

Some studies in the US have reported that more than 50% of the people with any mental disorder also suffer from substance dependence compared to 6% of the general population; and the odds of exhibiting substance dependence are 4.5 times higher for people with any mental disorder than for people without mental disorder (52). Clearly, there is a substantial overlap in these disorders.

The lifetime prevalence of alcohol dependence is 22% for individuals with any mental disorder compared to 14% for the general population, and the odds of having alcohol dependence if a person also has any mental disorder is 2.3 times higher than if there is no mental disorder (52). Studies in the United States over the last 20 years indicated that lifetime rates of major depressive disorder were 38-44% in people with alcohol dependence compared with only 7% in non-dependent individuals (35, 53-61). Further, approximately 80% of people with alcohol dependence have depressive symptoms (52, 62-64). An individual with alcohol dependence is 3.3 times more likely to also have schizophrenia, while a person with schizophrenia is 3.8 times more likely to exhibit alcohol dependence than the general population (52).

Higher percentages of people with mental illness, particularly people with schizophrenia, smoke tobacco compared to the general population. Depending on the particular mental illness, it has been reported that 26-88% of psychiatric patients smoke, compared to 20-30% of the general population (65-67). There are several close links between a major depressive disorder and tobacco smoking. In the US, up to 60% of heavy smokers have a history of mental illness (67, 68), and the incidence of major depressive disorder among smokers is twice that of non-smokers (65). Moreover, smokers who had a history of clinical depression were half as likely to succeed in quitting smoking than smokers without such history (14% versus 28%) (65). Epidemiological data indicate that the lifetime rates of major depressive disorder were 32% in cocaine users, and only 8 - 13% among non-cocaine users (52, 54, 56, 58, 69).

There is also a high degree of comorbidity of schizophrenia with psychostimulant use. Psychostimulant use is 2-5 times higher among patients with schizophrenia compared to people without schizophrenia, and more prevalent than in other psychiatric populations (70). Thus, it seems clear that substance dependence shares a considerable link with mental illness. Although most of the research on comorbidity has been carried out in only a few countries and the cultural validity of the data is unknown, neuroscience research into the treatment and prevention of one disorder will be beneficial to the other.

Source & ©: WHO Neuroscience of psychoactive substance use and dependence, 5
Gratitude Corner

NAMI Greater Cleveland wishes to recognize two amazing young women who are raising awareness and funds for mental illness. First, we want to introduce you to Annella Fernandez, a senior at Laurel School. After shadowing physicians caring for patients living with mental health illnesses, Annella decided to raise money for NAMI GC. Hosted by her parents Drs. Hubert Fernandez and Cecilia Lansang, Annella organized a reception featuring an exhibit of her photography. During the reception, Annella talked about her interest in mental illness as well as her photographs shot in London and Patagonia. Her efforts raised nearly $2,500 for NAMI Greater Cleveland.

Next, we wish to acknowledge Maria Mastrangelo, a 9th grader at Beaumont High School. As an 8th grader at St. Francis Assisi last year, Maria was required to complete a month-long service project, so she chose to focus her project on mental illness. To bring attention to mental illness, Maria created a poster highlighting mental illness facts. Then she made and sold bracelets at her school and dance studio, with the intention of donating the money to a mental health organization. While students were instructed to run their service projects for one month, Maria chose to continue her efforts for the entire school year, raising nearly $100 for NAMI Greater Cleveland. Inspired by her fundraising efforts, Maria created a poster highlighting mental illness facts for her final health project. One day when she is older, Maria hopes to be in the field of psychology.

Congratulations to Annella and Maria for your outstanding efforts!

On September 26, NAMI GC and the mental health community lost a good friend when Judge Ed Wade (pictured here with our MCO Coordinator Autra Dozer) lost his battle with prostate cancer. Judge Wade created and presided over the mental health docket for Cleveland Municipal Court. He recognized the Court’s unique position to put clinically diagnosed offenders in touch with behavioral services and case management in lieu of incarceration. We are grateful for his vision and advocacy on behalf of those who live with mental illness.

Donations

Anonymous
Michael Anderson
Monica & Ben Basset
Johanne Belzile
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Beta Nu Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, Case Western Reserve
Barbara & Gerald Carper
Case Western Reserve Charity Choice
Margaret Cohen & Kevin Rahilly
Lori & Bill Cosgrove
Andrea H. Corrigan
Drs. Roman & Diana Dale
Katherine Eaton
Rosella & Stephen Fedakowski
Verna & John Ferrante
Anne & Charles Germana
Laura & Rick Haag
Mr. Heffern
John Higgins
Joe Ippolito
Beverly Kosarko
Katy LaLone, M.D.
Clara Lyons
Make My Donation Inc.
Mary & Cecil Marek
Nicholas North
Cynthia Ondercin
Open Door Baptist Church
Cheryl Patterson
Progressive Insurance Foundation
Audrey and Albert Ratner
Mary Ellen Skipper
H. Bernard Smith
Mary Rita & John Urban
United Methodist Women Brecksville United Methodist Church
Michael Waggoner
Michelle Wamer
Maxine & Francis Weir
Terry Whalen
Christine Wolf
In Memory of Anita Billie Goldenberg
Louise Abrams & Robert Fuerst
The Bedolds
Elaine B. Bercu
Thomas W. Cristal
Ellen & Michael Feuer
Bonnie Horovitz
In Memory of Cy Daws
L. M. Daws
In Memory of Edward DiLiddo
Mary Kay DiLiddo
In Honor of Jean Johnson
NAMI Ohio
In Honor of Elaine Campbell Psarras, M.D.
Brittain Lamoureux
In Honor of Matthew Katz & Stephen Sokany
John Duke

Annella Fernandez poses next to her photographs.

Maria Mastrandelo’s final project on mental illness.
OUR ORGANIZATION

OFFICERS
Christine Young, MSSA, LSW, President
Mark Weintraub, Esq., Vice President
Christine Stadler, Secretary
Diana Bell, Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Erum Ahmad, MD
Anthony Buniel, CPA
John Cipolla, Esq.
Tyffani M. Dent, Psy.D.
Beth Elersich
Sakeena Francis
Faye Gary, EdD, MS, RN
Michelle Kerr, RN
Ben Miladin, MSW

BOARD EMERITUS
Lovell John Custard
Kathleen Stock
Elliott Myers
Alan Riga, Ph.D.

EDITOR
Lisa Dellafiora

MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD
Dr. Farah Munir, Chair
Kathleen A. Clegg, M.D.
Lori D’Angelo, Ph.D.
Philipp L. Dines, M.D., Ph.D.
J. Jin El-Mallawany, M.D.
Norah C. Feeney, Ph.D.
Tom Ference, Ph.D.
Bill Fikter, M.D.
Mary Gabriel, M.D.
Keming Gao, M.D.
Richard R. Hill, M.D., Ph.D.
Ewald Horwath, M.D.
George E. Jaskiw, M.D.
Evanne Juratovac, Ph.D., RN
P. Eric Konicki, M.D.
Joseph A. Locala, M.D.
Gary T. Pagano, M.D.
Luis F. Ramirez, M.D.
Rakesh Ranjan, M.D.
Robert J. Ronis, M.D., M.P.H.
Patrick Runnels, M.D.
Martha Sajatovic, M.D.
John Sanitato, M.D.
Thomas P. Sawaes, Ph.D.
George Tesar, M.D.
Megan Testa, M.D.
Cynthia S. Vrabel, M.D.

STAFF
Michael Baskin, Executive Director
mbaskin@namicleveland.org
Marsha Mitchell Blanks, Program Director
mblanks@namicleveland.org
Lisa Dellafiora,
Development/Special Events Coordinator
ldellafiora@namicleveland.org
Autra Dozier, Multicultural Outreach Coordinator
adozier@namicleveland.org
Becky Fela, Peer Support Specialist
bfela@namicleveland.org
Kari Kepic, Information and Referral Specialist
kkepic@namicleveland.org
Liz Krull, Office Administrator
lkrull@namicleveland.org
Terri Miller, Consumer and Family Program Coordinator
tmiller@namicleveland.org
Ellen Riehm, Community Education Coordinator
eriehm@namicleveland.org