Living with an invisible illness.

NAMI Greater Cleveland
The National Alliance On Mental Illness

2015 Annual Report
NAMI
Greater Cleveland

2015 Annual Meeting

NAMI Greater Cleveland was pleased to welcome U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown as the guest speaker for its 2015 Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony. Senator Brown encouraged the more than 300 guests to follow the example of civil rights activist John Lewis. “Make good trouble,” said Senator Brown, “by peacefully taking action for mental health issues.”

NAMI GC 2015 Honorees*

The Scott Adamson Memorial Peer Award
Jaime Lynn Smith

Mental Health Family/Caregiver Award
Therese Norris

Mental Health Provider Award
Denise Ayers, LSW
Compeer Program Coordinator, Far West Center

Eugene Brudno Memorial Organization Award
Donald Sykes, LISW-S
Managing Director, PsychBC

Cultural Competence in Mental Health Award
Debra Brown, BSW
Manager of Supportive Parenting, Beech Brook

Mental Health Teen Award
Life Act

Mental Health Innovator Award
Ewald Horwath, MD
Professor and Chairman
of the Department of Psychiatry
Case Western Reserve University
MetroHealth Program
Associate Clinical Director
of the Family Care Service Line
at MetroHealth

Local Community Leader of the Year
Judge Ed Wade
Cleveland Municipal Court

*to be honored at the 2016 Annual Meeting

Photos from the top left:
1. University Hospital Health System’s Robert Ronis, MD, PhD
   listens to remarks during last year’s annual meeting
2. U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, guest speaker
3. LifeAct Youth Advisory Board Members at the 2015 Walk
4. Anne McCabe and Therese Norris

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216-875-7776 Information and referral line
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www.namigreatercleveland.org
2015 NAMI Walk

NAMI Walkers from throughout Northeast Ohio applauded our new site, Edgewater Park. This new location afforded participants with lake views throughout the walk, activities that were in close proximity to one another, and free parking. NAMI Walks 2015 was comprised of 1,000 walkers, 80 Walk Teams, 32 corporate sponsors and 30 volunteers. The 13th Annual NAMI Walks raised more than $132,000 for NAMI Greater Cleveland programming such as support groups, courses on mental health, Hospital Network Project, multicultural outreach initiatives, and our Helpline.
I was thinking about summer
and looking forward to seeing butterflies.
They are beautiful and free
and make me feel calm.
I think it’s so cool to watch them
and see they have a purpose in life.
That helps me remember I have a purpose in mine.

Natasha Packard

NAMI 2015 Program Statistics

Information and Referral

Information and Referral
2,400 calls were received providing support, information
and referrals to peers, family members and professionals.

Self Help/Peer Support Services

Support Groups
25 Community Based Support Groups served 998 individuals
(individuals affected by mental illness and their family members/caregivers.)

Hospital Networking Project
226 presentation were delivered serving 1,530 individuals.

Mental Health Education Services

Family to Family
4 courses were delivered to 52 family members/caregivers

Understanding Mental Illness
5 courses were delivered to 71 family members/caregivers

NAMI Basics
2 courses were delivered to 12 parents

Peer to Peer
6 courses were delivered to 35 peers in recovery

In Our Own Voice: Living with Mental Illness
14 presentations were delivered serving 422 individuals

Staff Presentations/Outreach
30 presentations were delivered, serving 2,368 individuals

Speaker’s Bureau (Family Panel/Peer Panels)
21 presentations were delivered, serving 498 individuals

Other Mental Health Services

Psycho-Education Sessions (part of the Multicultural Outreach Program)
19 presentations were delivered, serving 220 individuals

Mental Health Wellness Workshops
10 presentations were delivered, serving 18 individuals with 576 service hours

Community Education Nights
5 presentations were delivered, serving 113 individuals

Health Fairs
7,324 people visited the NAMI Greater Cleveland table at 32 events
THE NAMI GREATER CLEVELAND MISSION

NAMI Greater Cleveland is dedicated to empowering 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.

The mission is accomplished through support groups, a Helpline, education courses, and advocacy activities.

OUR VISION

We envision a future where all residents of Greater Cleveland receive needed mental health services; stigma and discrimination regarding mental illness is challenged at every turn; and the best evidence-based and emerging science-based treatments and supports are accessible to all residents who live with mental illness. Mental illness is no longer an obstacle to a full and satisfying life; its impact greatly diminished.

CONNECT 4 MENTAL HEALTH

In 2015, NAMI Greater Cleveland was honored with a Connect 4 Mental Health Community Innovation Award and accompanying $10,000 grant. The award recognizes organizations that introduce novel approaches to addressing mental health in early intervention, creative use of technology, continuity of care and service integration. NAMI Greater Cleveland was acknowledged for its outreach efforts that target low income, vulnerable minority populations with mental illness at public housing apartment buildings. Since 2011, 221 individuals at Terrace Towers and Kingsbury Towers have participated in workshops and support group visits. This supportive community helps residents improve their physical health mental well-being, and maintain housing.

THE AKA AND NAMI GC PARTNERSHIP

Last year, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (AKA) and NAMI affiliates across the United States embarked on a four-year initiative to raise awareness of mental illness in the African-American community. Founded in 1908 by African-American women at Howard University in Washington, D.C., AKA is an international service organization with 283,000 members in 987 graduate and undergraduate chapters. In Cleveland, we are working with the Lambda Phi Omega and Alpha Omega chapters. Our AKA-NAMI Greater Cleveland partnership got off to a great start with members from both chapters participating in NAMIWalks 2015 and supporting faith-net programming at Cornerstone Church in Cleveland. We’re looking forward to working with the AKAs over the next three years and increasing mental health services and support to the African-American community.

The sunflower signifies hope, warmth, life and summer. The yellow color signifies happiness and vibrance of life, the feeling often experienced when I feel healthy, well, and energized.

Tracy Kichinka
A YEAR IN REVIEW

Michael Baskin and U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown

May 2016

Dear Friends of NAMI Greater Cleveland,

It was an exciting year for NAMI Greater Cleveland, a year filled with accomplishments! We’re pleased to be able to share with you some of those successes in this annual report. Read about the highlights of a year in review and the results of the progress we’ve made in year three of the Strategic Plan. You’ll get a glimpse of who we served, how we served, and the important people who helped us reach our goals, advocates of all types and stripes, from volunteers to staff, philanthropists to providers – all a part of the NAMI’s “community” in Northeast Ohio.

NAMI GC continued at what we uniquely do best…providing self-help and peer support for those affected by mental illness and advocating at the most important levels. We strengthened and expanded our programs by increasing availability and accessibility, and enhanced our visibility in the community. In 2015, we won a prestigious national award from Connect 4 Mental Health for our work with residents providing a series of mental health workshops and support groups at housing facilities in E. Cleveland and Cleveland. Staff presented on the model used at housing facilities at the NAMI national convention last July in San Francisco.

So many contributed so much. We’re so often humbled by the generosity of our donors, from individuals who have few resources yet who want to make sure they’re giving back, to institutional donors who generously recognize the unique value of an organization like NAMI. These generous gifts make our achievements possible.

It’s our hope to tell a story by creating this report, a story of the great work created by those who fuel the fire of our success. We dedicate this publication to those whom we are honored to serve each day, the participants of all the NAMI programs. It is their work and their efforts to lead full lives, to discover meaning for themselves and their families, and to ADVOCATE for themselves and others – that has become and remains our motivation for continued success.

Sincerely,

Christine Young
President, Board of Directors

Michael Baskin
Executive Director

Revenues and Support:

- Individual Contributions (and Memorials) $35,116
- Corporations 4,950
- Foundations 152,250
- Federated Campaigns 12,259
- Community Shares of Gr. Cleveland
- Government Grants (ADAMHS CC) 149,238
- Special Events 145,431
- Memberships 10,510
- Investment Income 3,649
- Business Sales 29,387
- Advertising Revenue 4,308

Total Revenues and Support $547,098

Expenses:

- General and Administrative $60,242
- Advocacy 8,086
- Community Education 131,569
- Fund Development 57,060
- Family/Consumer Support and Education 134,307
- Memberships 12,262
- Multi-Cultural Outreach 144,129

Total Expenses $547,655

Total Change in Net Assets ($557)
Our Staff

Michael Baskin, LISW, CEAP
Executive Director

Lisa Dellafiore
Development and Special Events Coordinator

Becky Fela
Peer Support Specialist

Kari Kepic
Information and Referral Specialist

Liz Krull
Office Assistant

Marsha Mitchell-Blanks, LSW
Program Director

Terri Miller
Peer and Family Program Coordinator

Ellen Riehm
Community Education Coordinator

Autra Dozier
Multicultural Outreach Specialist

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Photos from the top left:

1. During the NAMIWalks kick-off luncheon, Esther Jones (center) poses with Meredith Brown and Jessica Cavalloro, from U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown’s office.

2. Multicultural Outreach Specialist Autra Dozier appears on Latino Cleveland to discuss NAMI Greater Cleveland programs designed specifically for minority communities.

3. Upon the completion of the Bridges of Hope program at St. Martin’s Episcopal Church, Multicultural Outreach Specialist Autra Dozier and Peer and Family Program Coordinator Terri Miller pose with participants.

4. Dr. Natalie Whittow, Renita Allen, and NAMI Greater Cleveland Program Director Marsha Mitchell-Blanks at the NAMI National Convention in San Francisco last July. The trio presented the model for the emotional wellness program they developed to engage minority and low-income residents living in public housing units.

Cover photo by artist Tracy Kichinka
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Murtis Taylor
MultiService Center
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NAMI Sharing Hope
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NAMI GC would like to thank Anita C. Nonneman for her gracious support in the production and printing of our 2015 annual report.