



February 16, 2016

Affiliate Leadership,

This is the third letter to update you on happenings at NAMI Illinois [the first, dated December 12, and the second dated January 7, are available from the office should you have missed it].

Topics:

- NAMI Illinois Office
- Training Schedule
- Affiliate Support
- Affiliate Requirements
- Potpourri

NAMI Illinois Office

The office in Springfield is open for business Monday through Thursday 8:30am to 4:30pm. Fridays are closed as a cost-saving measure. We are attempting to answer most phone calls, rather than have them roll to voicemail. Holly McCaffrey, Programs Director, is in the office when open. Sue Spears, Interim Executive Director, is in the office two days per week - generally Tuesday/Wednesday, but is reachable other days by cell phone (309) 360-1143 or sspears@mtco.com.

Training Schedule

We are pleased to announce State Trainings for four NAMI Signature Programs June 17 - 19, 2016, in Champaign-Urbana. Four trainings are to be offered simultaneously.

Training for New Teachers/New Facilitators				
Class	Start	End	Cost Underwritten	Fee to Affiliate
Family to Family	Friday 9 am	Sunday 2 pm	\$100	\$250
Basics	Friday 3 pm	Sunday 2 pm	\$100	\$250
Family Support	Saturday 8:30 am	Sunday 6:30 pm	\$100	\$250
Connections	Saturday 8:30 am	Sunday 6:30 pm	\$100	\$250

Note the participant or affiliate is responsible for mileage and hotel sleeping room expense.

The training information will be distributed to affiliate leaders and education coordinators and will be available on the NAMI Illinois website within the next few days.

This multi-training format will permit interaction among attendees outside of class.

Feedback from attendees in the past is that they prefer the overnight approach affording the opportunity to meet and learn from others during meals and evening hours.

During the training weekend, NAMI Illinois will provide information that will be of interest to the attendees about the role of NAMI Illinois, the NAMI Illinois Conference, NAMI on Campus, Advocacy and other topics.

NAMI Illinois will be submitting applications for five (5) Connections State Trainers and two (2) Peer to Peer State Trainers that will occur in Arlington, VA by NAMI National.

Becoming a Connections or Peer to Peer Trainer				
Class	Start	End	Cost Underwritten	Fee to Affiliate
Connections	April 22, 2016	April 24, 2016	\$450 for registration, materials and double room accommodations	Airfare, optional upgrade to private room, non-included meals, local transportation
Peer to Peer	April 22, 2016	April 24, 2016	\$450 for registration, materials and double room accommodations	Airfare, optional upgrade to private room, non-included meals, local transportation

The goal of NAMI Illinois is to establish a look-ahead plan of 12 to 18 months to enable affiliates to do their planning. Refer special needs to Holly or Sue.

Affiliate Development

Strong and growing affiliates are the cornerstone of our State. To move forward on this we have defined the following steps:

- Learn about affiliates:
 - Stat Sheets: please submit these each quarter to NAMI Illinois (please forward your stat sheet through December 2015 if you have not already done so). Reminder: post your program data to www.nami.org/programdata and keep this site current as it is used to help those in need to find programs.
 - Database: we are creating a database about affiliates. To do this several Executive Directors (EDs) have volunteered to help us call all 23 affiliates and complete a comprehensive form about each affiliate (expect a call). Linked to this will be the opportunity to provide mentoring/suggestions/advice - as the EDs doing the calling have extensive experience in running a robust affiliate. The purpose is to create an opportunity for you to have a dialogue with someone in the same role as yourself. This database will be shared so you can learn more about each other, hopefully leading to exciting collaborations.
- NAMI Illinois does not currently have the financial resources to be the parent organization for affiliates that do not have their own 501(c) (3), insurance, bylaws, policies/procedures and other organization requisites:
 - We have created new templates for bylaws, policies and procedures based

upon the NAMI National models, but adjusted to be appropriate for within the State of Illinois. These will be made available soon. The goal is to simplify the process of becoming re-affiliated.

- To start the dialogue about how we might meet the needs of local affiliates that do not have all of the pieces in place, we are inviting Board Presidents and Executive Directors from affiliates South of I-80 to a meeting March 19th in Bloomington/Normal IL, concurrent with the scheduled NAMI Illinois Board Meeting. The discussion will include how to accomplish moving to a self-sufficient affiliate model over time. Later we will have a similar discussion North of I-80, most likely at the May 21st Board meeting in Chicago.

Affiliate Requirements of NAMI Illinois

In September the NAMI Illinois Board of Directors decided to survey affiliate leaders to determine the best course of action for the future for NAMI Illinois. Doctoral students in clinical psychology from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, under the supervision of Immediate Past President of the NAMI Illinois Board John Shustitzky, gathered information from all affiliates through both an online survey and extensive telephone interviews. Their Final Report of this effort is available to affiliate leadership through a request to Holly McCaffrey in the NAMI Illinois office: hollymac@sbcglobal.net. The Board thanks John and his students for this significant work effort.

Results in summary:

- Prioritization of NAMI Illinois activities (the top 4 in most important to least importance sequence)
 - Training of Teachers and Facilitators (81%)
 - Legislative Advocacy (67%)
 - Annual State Conference (48%)
 - Affiliate Support (48%)
 - Current priorities have been adjusted to address these priorities, and a number of lower priority items have been transferred to others or eliminated.

Potpourri

- NAMI Convention in Denver: July 6 (arrive July 5) through 9: At this time NAMI Illinois Board Members John Schladweiler, Sue Spears and Diane Zell plan to be there.
- NAMI Illinois Conference: Techny Towers Conference and Retreat Center (Northbrook) IL: Friday October 14/Saturday October 15. We are exploring offering CEU's. Multiple tracks are planned to interest affiliate leaders, advocates, persons living with a mental illness and family members.

Yours truly,

John Schladweiler
Board President - NAMI Illinois
