NAMI CA State Conference Coming Soon!

Friday and Saturday, August 21-22 2015 in Newport Beach

You can get a Super Early Bird Discount Now which ends January 31st.

You can get more information here.

If you have any questions, please contact Eugenia

There's still time to join this year's film contest. The Directing Change Student Film Contest has extended the submission deadline to midnight PST February 16, 2015!

Students throughout California are invited to Direct Change by submitting 60-second films in two categories: "Suicide Prevention" and "Ending the Silence about Mental Illness". The winning teams and their associated schools will win prizes, receive mental health or suicide prevention programs for their schools, get to participate in a meeting with state legislators on these topics, and attend the award ceremony at the end of the 2014-15 school year. Visit the
Submission Deadline has been extended to: February 16, 2015.

We are now seeking judges to help us select the winning films. Do you have expertise/interest in directing, writing, editing, acting, journalism, public service announcements, video production, suicide prevention and/or mental health? Contact us about becoming a judge today! The entire process would take less than 2 hours of your time, all of which can be done online from home.

Judges ...

- Participate in a brief 30-45 minute judging orientation in (via phone or webinar) in January or February 2015.
- Review up to 12 sixty-second film submissions and complete an online scoring form for each (time commitment of less than two hours.) The judging period will be taking place in mid-March 2015.
- Are invited (but not required) to attend the award ceremony in Sacramento on May 19th 2015.
- Are recognized on the contest website and in the award ceremony program.

Want to stay updated with all things Directing Change? Subscribe to The Advocate: Directing Change Newsletter! The Newsletter features updates about Directing Change and monthly educational films about topics on mental health and suicide prevention.

DVDs of the 2014 finalists and promotional flyers are available upon request.
Please contact Lauren Hee if you have questions, need outreach materials, or have judge inquiries at lauren@namica.org or 916-567-0163.

NAMI CAN Legislative Conference Call January 28

NAMI California's Legislation and Advocacy Department is happy to announce that our monthly NAMI CAN Legislative Conference Calls will resume in January 2015. The call will take place Wednesday, January 28th, from 5 - 6:15 pm. The call in number is 800.944.8766 and the code is 93951#.

If you would like to participate in these calls, please contact David Czarnecki, Advocacy Coordinator, at David@namica.org. You will be placed on a contact list where you can receive information about upcoming calls, participate in polls to establish call dates and times, and receive the most recent updates regarding legislation and policy. The first call will introduce Kiran Savage-Sangwan, NAMI California's new Policy and Legislation Analyst, describe the process of our legislation calls this year, as well as a discussion of legislative priorities for 2015.

NAMI California Update: 2015 State Budget

Last Friday, January 9th, Governor Brown released his 2015-16 state budget proposal. NAMI California has identified several areas as having potential impacts on consumers and families. We will continue to
follow the budget through the legislative process and provide updates and advocacy opportunities to members.

Read the full budget review by Kiran Savage-Sangwan, Public Policy and Legislative Analyst [HERE](#).

**Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) to Meet January 22**

The agenda for the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission Meeting to be held on January 22, 2015 has been posted to the MHSOAC meeting page and may be accessed directly by clicking on this [LINK](#).

**Next Commission Meeting:**
January 22, 2015
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
MHSOAC
1325 J Street, Suite 1700
Sacramento, CA 95814
Call-In Number: 866-817-6550

**NAMI California Recognized by NAMI for Innovative Advocacy Initiative**

From NAMI Advocacy Update: November 2014
Bright Spot: NAMI California
"NAMI California has built a network of people living near the state capitol - the Capitol Coalition - to advocate on mental health issues by giving testimony before the legislature, attending policy meetings, and following regulatory agencies. This network uses the NAMI Smarts for Advocacy training to shape their personal narrative so their stories are articulate, brief and compelling. In response to this highly successful network, legislative staff said that NAMI California's footprint grows with each passing opportunity, and that the Capitol Coalition are relied upon for their clear and certain perspective. Cheers to these wonderful California mental health advocates!"

NAMI members in the Sacramento region are invited to join the Capitol Coalition by contacting David Czarnecki, Advocacy Coordinator, at david@namica.org.

Find the article HERE

Important Upcoming Events and Conferences Around California and Online
Each Mind Matters 7th International "Together Against Stigma" Conference Feb. 17-20 in San Francisco

The 7th International "Together Against Stigma" Conference will be held February 17-20, 2015 in San Francisco. This conference will be the first to be hosted in the United States and underscores the fact that stigma of mental health challenges is not exclusive to any one country or culture: it is pervasive, encountered at all levels of society, institutions, among families and within the healthcare profession itself.

Follow this LINK for more information:

NAMI CA FAMILY TRAININGS:
Note: These trainings are for family members to become teachers of the education programs listed below. Support group trainings are for family members to become facilitators of a support group.

- Family to Family: January 30 - February 1, 2015 Chico, California
- Basics: January 23-25, 2015 Ontario, California
- Family Support Group: February 6-8, 2015 Chico, California
- Family Support Group: March 20-22, 2015 San Diego, California
- Family to Family: March 20-22, 2015 San Diego, California
- Family to Family: April 17- April 19, 2015 Bakersfield, California
- Family to Family: May 15-17, 2015 Vacaville, California
- Basics: May 15-17, 2015 Vacaville, California

There are also Family to Family/Basics trainings offered by the LACC (NAMI Los Angeles County). Please contact Brittney Weissman for further details: brittney@namilaccc.org

For all other trainings above, or to apply for a grant to hold a training for your affiliate, please contact Lynn Cathy, Lynn@namica.org

NAMI PEER PROGRAMS TRAININGS:

These trainings are for peer members to become teachers (mentors) of the education programs listed below.

- Peer to Peer: Fresno, January 23-25, 2015 (Full)
- Peer to Peer: Fairfield, February 20-22, 2015
- Peer to Peer: Campbell, April 24-26, 2015
- Peer to Peer: San Diego, May 15-17, 2015
- Persona a Persona: Ontario, March 37-29, 2015

Grants applications for NAMI California affiliates to put on their own trainings for Family and Peer Programs are being accepted now. The due date is February 2nd. Please visit the affiliate login section of the NAMI California website for application information or contact Lynn Cathy, State Family to Family Coordinator and Interim Peer Coordinator. lynn@namica.org

NAMI on Campus High School:
We've Successfully launched our NAMI on Campus High School
(NCHS)! NCHS is a student-led club that promotes mental health and wellness. Please contact Kelly Boyles at kelly@namica.org for more information.

Send inquiries to:

- **Family Programs and Peer Programs** - Lynn@namica.org
- **Parents and Teachers as Allies, Ending the Silence, NAMI on Campus, Provider Education** - Kelly@namica.org
- **Directing Change** - Lauren@namica.org
- **Programs Director, Beth Wolf (Larkins)** - Beth@namica.org

NAMI California Office: 916-567-0163

Check Facebook for Breaking News!

Check [https://www.facebook.com/namicalifornia](https://www.facebook.com/namicalifornia) for breaking news about legislation or NAMI California program and events.

Contact Us

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