Students are invited to submit their films to help others and win prizes!

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 campaign website for contest rules and information: www.directingchange.org.

Submission Deadlines: February 1, 2015.

Want to stay updated with all things Directing...
News and Alerts

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 at lauren@namica.org or 916-567-0163.

Important Upcoming Events and Conferences Around California and Online

"Together Against Stigma: Each Mind Matters" Annual Conference Coming Soon!

Please mark your calendars for this very important conference coming soon February 17-20th. Training for consumers, family members and other mental health advocates.

Save the date information:


NAMI California Programs Training News

NAMI FAMILY PROGRAMS TRAININGS: These are also posted on http://namifamily.blogspot.com

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.

- Basics: January 23-25, 2015 Ontario, California (NEW LOCATION)
- 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 will also be Family to Family trainings offered by the LACC (NAMI Los Angeles County). Please contact Brittney Weissman: brittney@namilaccc.org for more information.

Grants will also be available to NAMI California affiliates desiring to put on their own trainings. Please contact Lynn Cathy at Lynn@namica.org for further details.

NAMI PEER PROGRAMS TRAININGS:
These trainings are for peer members to become teachers of the education programs listed below:

- Peer to Peer: Fresno, January 23-25, 2015
- 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, Date TBD

Grants are available to NAMI California affiliates to put on their own trainings for the Connection and Peer to Peer programs. Please contact Stephenie Gardella at Stephenie@namica.org for more information.
NAMI on Campus High School: We are launching NAMI on Campus High School (NCHS) this Fall! NCHS is a student-led club that promotes mental health and wellness. In addition to our two trainings in November, a new training date has been set for Monday, December 1, 2014 in San Bernardino County. Please contact Kelly Boyles at kelly@namica.org for more information.

Send inquiries to:

- Family Programs - Lynn@namica.org
- IOOV, Peer to Peer and Connection - Stephenie@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

NAMI CAN

Implementation of Assembly Bill (AB) 720 - Suspension of Medi-Cal Benefits for all Inmates and Other Requirements

The purpose of this alert from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is to provide counties with information about AB 720, Statutes of 2013, Chapter 646, which added Penal Code section 4011.11, and amended Welfare and Institutions (W & I) Code section 14011.10. AB 720 took effect January 1, 2014.

This legislation:
* Requires counties to suspend rather than terminate Medi-Cal benefits for all inmates, regardless of age, who were Medi-Cal beneficiaries at the time they became inmates of a public institution.
* Authorizes county Boards of Supervisors (BOS), in consultation with the county sheriff, to designate an entity or entities to assist county jail inmates with their applications for a health insurance affordability
program; and to act on behalf of county jail inmates for purposes of applying for Medi-Cal coverage for acute inpatient hospital services provided to inmates off the grounds of the correctional facility.

* Clarifies that "The fact that an applicant is an inmate shall not, in and of itself, preclude a county human services agency from processing an application for the Medi-Cal program submitted to it by, or on behalf of, that inmate."

Click here to see the full implementation document.

**MHSUDS Integration Task Force Meeting**
**Monday, November 10**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services (MHSUDS) is convening a one-day meeting of invited experts for a MHSUDS Integration Task Force (Task Force) meeting on Monday, November 10th.

The Task Force meeting will take place from 10:00a.m. - 4:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the DHCS campus located at 1500 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento. The meeting is open to the public either in person or via conference call. Public comment will be accepted during the meeting and by email to MHSUDStakeholderInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Comments can be submitted after the meeting through Friday, November 14, 2014.

To view/print the agenda for this meeting, follow this link.

The Task Force is comprised of invited experts from the mental health, substance use disorders, primary care field, and county services. The purpose of the meeting is for the Director and his Deputy Directors and key staff to gather input and feedback on mental health and substance use disorder issues as the department works on integration efforts including its work on the 1115 waiver.

**Sen. Darrell Steinberg to be Honored at Nov. 15 Fall Advocacy and Collaboration Conference**
California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, National Alliance on Mental Illness California, United Advocates for Children and Families, Let's Erase The Stigma, and the California Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children are proud to host the 6th Annual Advocacy and Collaboration Conference.

The Conference will take place on November 15, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Green Hills Country Club, 500 Ludeman Lane, Millbrae, CA 94030.

We are happy to announce CAL-ACAP will honor Sen. Darrell Steinberg with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his exhaustive advocacy efforts benefiting children and families in California.

The event is free to the public. You must RSVP with your lunch entree selection by Nov 1.

Please choose either a) Chicken Piccata or b) Mushroom Risotto (vegetarian and gluten free)

To make your reservation, please contact David Czarnecki, Advocacy Coordinator at david@namica.org

**Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) Seeks Committee Members**

The MHSOAC is looking for people who would like to serve as members on various committees for the 2015/2016 Committee Cycle. Please be aware that the committee membership for the current two-year cycle will end on December 31, 2014. If you would like to be considered for selection in the 2015/2016 MHSOAC Committee cycle, please complete and submit the attached MHSOAC Committee Application by November 10, 2014. The application can also be found by [clicking here](#).
Commitments of selected Committee members are as follows:

* Attend a minimum of 75% of scheduled Committee meetings in person or by teleconference (at minimum, committee meetings are held once every other month)

* Committee members are asked to give notice to staff when they are unable to attend a meeting; failure to regularly attend meetings may result in removal from your Committee assignment

* Contribute to Committee work products, including review and feedback of recommendations, position papers, etc.
  
  * Communicate with Committee staff between meetings on Committee business and/or work products
  
  * Advance the vision, goals and work of the Committee
  
  * Participate in Committee Workgroups as needed
  
  * Committee membership is for two years

Reminder: MHSOAC Community Mental Health Forum in Ventura on Nov. 6th

A Community Forum will be held on November 6, 2014, to discuss the impact of Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), in Ventura Area Counties. The Community Forum is sponsored by the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC), and facilitated by two MHSOAC committees, the
Client and Family Leadership Committee and the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee.

NAMI California STRONGLY URGES you to consider participating. Should you attend please indicate that you are their representing the interests of your NAMI affiliate.

The Community Forum will be held from 3:00 to 6:30 PM. at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel, 450 East Harbor Blvd., Ventura, CA 93001.

Specifically, the MHSOAC is interested in hearing from stakeholders about how MHSA services and supports that were funded as a result of Proposition 63 have made a difference for them, their families and/or their community. MHSOAC Committee members and staff will facilitate a semi-structured discussion with attending stakeholders designed to elicit feedback and diverse views. Information and stories gleaned through this discussion will be summarized annually and used to provide feedback to the MHSOAC about how persons have experienced the MHSA in local communities throughout California. This information will be considered by the MHSOAC in shaping future policy direction.

Find more details on the event here: http://www.mhsoac.ca.gov/Meetings/Meetings_Community_Forum.aspx

Check Facebook for Breaking News!

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

Contact Us

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