

# **NAMI** Provider Education

National Alliance on Mental Illness

## About NAMI

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI advocates for access to services, treatment, supports and research and is steadfast in its commitment to raising awareness and building a community of hope for all of those in need.

## What is NAMI Provider Education?

NAMI Provider Education is a free, five session education program for mental health professionals who work directly with individuals living with serious mental illness and their families. The program is designed to be taught by a five person teaching team comprised of two family members, two persons living with serious mental illness and a mental health professional who is also either a family member or an individual living with a mental illness.

- NAMI Provider has been available since 1995
  - NAMI Provider courses taught to date: more than 600
  - NAMI Provider graduates: More than 13,000
  - NAMI Provider is available in 21 states and Ontario, Canada
- \*as of May 2012

NAMI Provider Education gives mental health professionals a new perspective on working with individuals living with mental illness and their families.

## What are the goals of NAMI Provider Education?

- To expose mental health professionals to the various emotional stages that individuals living with mental illness and their families go through on the journey to recovery
- To help mental health staff gain an empathy and understanding of the lived experience of individuals living with mental illness and their families, specifically in the areas of treatment
- To promote the concept of collaboration between the individuals living with the illness, the mental health staff and the family to achieve the best level of recovery possible

## What people are saying about NAMI Provider Education?

“The sessions are powerful. They teach us and move us to tears. We become humble as they challenge us to reexamine our constructs of psychiatric illness and treatment. We walk in their shoes.” An agency medical director

## How Can I find out more about NAMI Provider Education?

Contact your NAMI Affiliate to find out more about the availability of NAMI Provider in your community. You can also visit [www.nami.org/local](http://www.nami.org/local) or call (800) 950-NAMI (6264).



National Alliance on Mental Illness  
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