

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Santa Clara County NEWSLETTER

Volume XLIV No. 9 September 2019

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Contact Us:

NAMI Santa Clara County Community Resource & Support Center 1150 S. Bascom Ave, Ste 24 San Jose, CA 95128-3509 408-453-0400, Option #1 www.namisantaclara.org M-F, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

General Meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2019 In Our Own Voice (IOOV)

Please join us on **Sept. 10** for our first meeting after a two-month summer break. One of NAMI's signature programs, **In Our Own Voice**, has recently been revised and two very experienced presenters, **Robin S.** and **Sara S.**, will introduce us to the new format as they share their stories of recovery.

People gather at around 7 P.M. in the auditorium of Good Samaritan Hospital (basement of main building). At 7:15 there will be announcements

followed by our speakers from **7:30–8:30**. (Good Samaritan is located at 2425 Samaritan Dr, SJ. Find directions at www.maps.yahoo.com)

Upcoming General Meeting Speakers

Oct. 8: Recovery-Based Mental Health Care Larry Powell & Lorraine Zeller

Nov. 12: Medications 101 Majid Talebi



Updates for 2019 NAMIWalks Silicon Valley

We are less than 30 days away from 2019 NAMIWalks Silicon Valley.

Please take note of the following:

- We really want to emphasize Team Shirts and Team Signs. Team Captains, please send a photo of your team shirt and/or signs to Shanna (see contact info below). Include your team name, the number of people on your team, and why you are walking in NAMIWalks Silicon Valley.
- Participants' dogs are welcome at the event, but please keep them on a leash at all times while at Arena Green and on the Walk trail.
- 3. Unfortunately, the Santa Clara Valley Water Truck (H20 to Go) will not be present at this year's Walk. However, we will have plenty of bottled water. We also encourage participants to bring their own water bottles.

- 4. This year's entertainment lineup includes Sourdough Sam, the hardest-working mascot in the NFL. This will be Sourdough Sam's second NAMIWalks Silicon Valley
- 5. Jeff Bell will join us this year as keynote speaker. Bell is a KCBS news anchor, author, and mental health advocate who lives with obsessive-compulsive disorder. He is the founder and president of A2A Alliance.
- 6. The City of San Jose's Mayor, Sam Liccardo, will also join us as a speaker. A native of the Santa Clara Valley and former criminal prosecutor, Liccardo is a graduate of Bellarmine, Georgetown University, Harvard University, and Harvard Law School. In 2018, San Jose residents overwhelmingly reelected Sam with 76% of the vote.

Shanna Webb: swebb@namisantaclara.org or 408-453-0400 x 3125

NAMI's Position on Gun Violence and Mental Illness

As you know there were three mass shootings earlier this month in one week: in Gilroy, California; El Paso, Texas; and Dayton, Ohio. How can this keep occurring across our country? Many folks have weighed in on the subject of gun violence and mental illness. NAMI National has published articles and letters; **Pete Earley**, an acclaimed journalist and writer, wrote a letter to *The Washington Post*.

We'd like you to read these important and very timely communications. Please go to www.namisantaclara.org; click on the menu option News and Events at the top of the page, and then on Mental Health in the News.

Thank you.

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon ~ Thursday, October 17



By Cole Buxbaum

Who's Who at the NAMI-SCC Office 408-453-0400

Kathy Forward (x3025)
Executive Director

Alexia Worsham (x3120) Deputy Director

Shanna Webb (x3125)
Development Director

Lourdes Robles (x3150) Community Peer Program Director

Stacy Badgis (x3030) Administrative Manager

Donna Mechanic (x3040) Administrative Helper

Sarah Prabhu (x3020) Warmline/Help Desk Manager

Nicole Rathjen (x3105) Warmline Assistant Manager

Stephanie Schonian (x3095) Volunteer Outreach Manager

Programs

Barb St. Clair (x3080) Family-to-Family / BASICS / Connections / Family Support Groups Coordinator

Greg Osborn (x3050)Provider Education Coordinator

Laura Paulson (x3140) Peer PALS Advisor

Barbara Thompson (x3090) Peer-to-Peer Coordinator

Alexia Worsham (x3120) In Our Own Voice (IOOV), Ending the Silence (ETS)

Chris Cherry (x3145)
Homefront Coordinator

Erika Alvarez-Hernandez (x3065) Spanish Programs

June 11 General Meeting Write-Up Latest Research on Schizophrenia, Dr. Jong Yoon

Dr. Jong Yoon presented information on research he and his team at Stanford are working on involving novel approaches for measuring brain differences that may serve as markers or clues to changes in schizophrenia.

Dr. Yoon is an associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Stanford University, as well as a practicing physician at the Palo Alto VA. His group has been seeking to discover the brain mechanisms responsible for causing schizophrenia. Little treatment with drugs exists at this time for patients with negative symptoms such as lack of interest and blunted emotional responses. His work is particularly interested in investigating impairment in the function of the basal ganglia, which gives rise to cognitive and information processing deficits and other psychoses in schizophrenia. It

appears that individuals with a dysfunction in a major inhibitor in the brain, GABA, show a reduction in certain neurons. GABA may affect the levels of a "stop signal."

Individuals with schizophrenia can show cognitive deficits as high as 30%. Schizophrenia can be caused by a fault in programming in the brain during adolescence. It appears that the normal brain shows a reduction in the density of neurons in adolescence as opposed to the higher quantity in the brain with schizophrenia, which has not been pruned. A gene may be responsible for this dysfunction.

For a video of the presentation, go to https://namisantaclara.org/general-meeting/

Cole Buxbaum, Long-time NAMI Newsletter Editor Retires

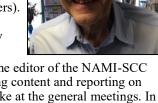
Cole Buxbaum has been a volunteer at NAMI-SCC for almost 30 years, involved in writing and researching articles of interest to our community. And we shall miss him!

Before becoming a volunteer at NAMI-SCC, **Cole** was involved in R&D at companies doing medical electronics in imaging and critical care systems.

In 1990, Cole became a member of the National Alliance for the Mentally III (previous name of NAMI) when the office was located at 1231 Minnesota Ave in San Jose.

He began writing a resource handbook in 1995, covering key issues related to the needs of families of those suffering with mental illness (schizo-(affective disorder, schizophrenia, major

depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, panic disorder and other related disorders). The handbook was updated periodically through 2015.



In 2001, Cole became editor of the NAMI-SCC newsletter, reviewing content and reporting on the experts who spoke at the general meetings. In addition, he researched and wrote about scientific information about mental illness.

Cole hopes to stay informed and will participate as he is able.

Picnic 2019 Photos











NAMI-SCC Board Meeting

NAMI Board Meetings take place on the **first Tuesday** of the month; the next Board Meetings are on **Tue**, **Sept. 3**, **7–9** P.M. at the **NAMI-SCC** office.

NAMI SCC Board Officers

Co-Presidents:

Vic Ojakian / Beverly Lozoff

Vice Presidents: Juan Perez Harold Brown Uday Kapoor

Treasurer: **Steve Wade** Secretary:

Peter Newman

Staff Spotlight: Daisy Harms



Daisy grew up in California, New Jersey, and England, then moved back to California after college in Pennsylvania to work as a project and events manager. Upon the birth of her third child, she suffered from severe postpartum depression, which was later diagnosed as Bipolar Disorder II.

During her journey to wellness, she found it healing and stabilizing to offer support to others experiencing mental health challenges. Several years ago she took NAMI's Peer-to-Peer class and worked as a Peer Pal and In Our Own Voice presenter. Daisy has volunteered at Suicide and Crisis Services, a shelter for human trafficking survivors, and implemented a life skills & anti-bullying program at her children's elementary school.

Bringing hope and compassion to family members and peers as a Warmline assistant and peer mentor is a dream come true. Her heart's desire is for every person to feel valued, respected, and known. She is grateful to be working in such an encouraging environment.

Daisy loves the beach, reading, hiking, and spending time with family and friends.

September 2019

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Community Events in September and October

1. VAPAHCS Mental Health Summit

Key stakeholders come together with the goal of enhancing access to mental health services and addressing the mental healthcare needs of Veterans and their families. RSVP by Sept. 4

WHEN: Fri, Sept. $13 \sim 9$ A.M.-4:30 P.M.

WHERE: US Army 63rd Regional Support Command HQ, 230 R T Jones Rd, Mtn View

INFO: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-vapahcs-7th-annual-mh-summit-

registration-62372460709

2. Mobile Response & Stabilization

WHEN/WHERE: Tue, Sept. 3 ~ 6:30-8 P.M; Saratoga Library Community Rm,

13650 Saratoga Av, Saratoga

Mon, Sept. 12 ~ 6:30–8 P.M.; Franklin-McKinley Board Rm,

645 Wool Creek Dr, SJ

INFO: Balinda Martienez, 408-794-0667

3. Mental Health & Wellness Fair During Suicide Prevention Week (Sept. 8-14)

Raise awareness, connect with resources / Free snacks and giveaways.

WHEN: Fri. Sept. 13 ~ Noon-4:30 P.M.

WHERE: Eastridge Center, 2200 Eastridge Loop, SJ INFO: Evelyn.Ouintanilla@hhs.sccgov.org

4. Adult Mental Health First Aid

This 8-hour free course teaches adults how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.

WHEN: Fri, Sept. $13/20 \sim 12$ P.M. -4 P.M. (English)

Mon, Sept. 30 ~ 12:30–4:30 P.M. (English) Wed, Oct. 2 ~ 12:30–4:30 P.M. (English)

WHERE: 1075 E Santa Clara St., 2nd Floor, SJ

INFO: Register online www.sccbhsd.org/eccac or email Peggy.Cho@hhs.sccgov.org

5. Mental Health First Aid for Adults Who Work with Youth

This course is designed for adults working with youth, parents with teens & transitional age youth.

WHEN: Mon & Thu, Sept. 18/19 ~ 12:30–4:30 P.M. (English)

Thu & Fri, Sept. 12/13 ~ 9 A.M. –1 P.M. (Spanish)

WHERE: Register online www.sccbhsd.org/eccac or email Peggy.Cho@hhs.sccgov.org

6. 6th Senior Safari

Adults 50 and older are invited to Happy Hollow at a kid-free time to help them improve their health, avoid social isolation, and enjoy a unique environment that stimulates both mind and body. Admission and parking are free; guests who enter before 10 A.M. may stay all day for free.

WHEN: Thur, Sept. 26

WHERE: Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, 748 Senter Road, San Jose

INFO: info@happyhollow.org or call 408-794-6400

7. 6th Annual Wellness Village Day

In honor of National Recovery Month, join in a day of celebrating and embracing our strengths together as a community; presented by ECCAC Family Outreach/Engagement Program, SCC.

WHEN: Sat, Sept. 28

WHERE: Hellyer Park, 985 Hellyer Av, SJ (Sylvandale & Yerba Buena Sites)

INFO: Eramelisse de Castro, 408-792-3933

8. Compassion-Focused Therapy for Psychosis—For Family Members & Peers

This 1-day training is designed for family members and peers who want to learn about this type of therapy. Presented by Stanford Medicine and South Bay Project Resource; facilitated by

Dr. Charlie Heriot-Maitland.

WHEN: Sun, Oct. 13 \sim 10 A.M.—5 P.M.

WHERE: Stanford University, Tresidder Memorial Union, 485 Lagunita Dr., Stanford

Cypress North and South Rooms

REGISTRATION: Required, seating is limited; go to

https://www.onlineregistrationcenter.com/register/222/page1.asp?m=4365&c=2

Ongoing Activities NAMI-SCC

Supporting others is part of the recovery process.

NAMI Education Classes

Classes (Family-to-Family, Provider, Peer-to-Peer, BASICS, Homefront) are offered throughout the year. In addition to English, some classes are available in Spanish, Mandarin, and Korean. For more info, please call the NAMI Warmline at 408-453-0400, Opt #1 or go to

www.namisantaclara.org

Connections Recovery Support Group

This group — for people over 18 with a mental health condition — meets every Sunday 3–4:30 P.M. at the NAMI office. (Please arrive between 2:45–3:10 when the building door is open.)

Nature Walks

Join the group 9–11 A.M. on the 1st Sunday of the month at Campbell Park in Campbell. For info, call the Davé family at 408-946-4379.

Sticker Donations

The Volunteer Project needs stickers for making **NAMI bookmarks** that are used at outreach events & are very popular. Drop off items at the NAMI-SCC office.

Questions: Email **Stephanie** at sschonian@namisantaclara.org

NAMI-SCC Warmline / Help Desk

[Nonjudgmental support to individuals & families during times of need as well as guidance on how to begin in recovery]

Hours — M–F, 10 A.M.–6 P.M. / 408-453-0400, option #1 For Information in Other Languages:

 Juan Perez (se habla español)
 408-528-5353

 Athen Hong (Mandarin)
 408-996-1016

SCC Emergency & Referral Information

Dial 911 and request a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officer. **NOTE:** For non-emergency situations, call your local police department and ask for a CIT Officer.

Emergency Psychiatric Services (EPS) 408-885-6100 Urgent Psychiatric Care Unit 100 408-885-7855 Daily 8 A.M.-10 P.M.; walk in.

Suicide & Crisis Center Hotline (Central)

Mental Health Call Center

24-hr. on-call staff; Provides info/referrals M–F, 8 A.M.–5 P.M.

Mobile Crisis Response Team

800-704-0900, option # 2

Crisis assessment, intervention/referrals M–F, 8 A.M.–5 P.M.

Gateway, Dept. of Alcohol & Drug Services

800-488-9919

211 Santa Clara County

Free non-emergency, confidential 3-digit phone number/service for access to critical services (multilingual); www.211scc.org

Uplift Family Services Child/Adolescent

Mobile Crisis Program 408-379-9085

Uplift Family Services (formerly EMQ Families First)
Crisis Stabilization Unit 408-364-4083
After-hours/weekend emergencies 877-412-7474

REACH Program 855-273-2248

Assists youth/young adults ages 10-25, uninsured or Medi-Cal eligible in SCC at clinical high risk for psychosis.

Bill Wilson Center Teen Crisis Line 408-850-6140

In Crisis: Text RENEW to 741741

To speak confidentially with a Crisis Counselor

Mental Health Advocacy Project (MHAP)

Free legal help for mental health patients' rights 408-294-9730

VA Referrals—Help for Veterans 800-455-0057



We're on Twitter!

Be part of our online community & engage in Mental Health conversations at twitter@namisantaclara.org





On our Facebook page at NAMI Santa Clara County you'll find lots of articles that have been posted recently, as well as links to other mental health organizations. And be sure to like us! www.facebook.com/namisantaclara.org

NAMI-Santa Clara County, Community Resource & Support Center 1150 S. Bascom Av Ste 24, San Jose CA 95128-3509

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

Street Address:		City:	State:	_ Zip:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	E-Mail Address:		
You will receive	your newsletter via email.	Please provide us with a	n email addı	ress.
Would you be interested in doir	ng volunteer work at NAMI? If in	terested, call 408-453-0400, c	option #1	
Please accept my annual inc	lividual membership at the f	following level: Please checl	k one: 🗖 Ne	ew 🛭 Renewal
Effective July 1, 2017: □ \$6	0 Household Membership	\$40 Individual/Regular Mer	nbership 🗆 🖰	\$5 Open Door
Please accept my additional	donation(s): □ General Fund	d □ Education I	Program	□ Other_
☐ In Memory of				
	(Make checks pa	vable to NAMI-Santa Clara Cou	ntv)	
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Total Amount Enclosed: \$ To pay online, go to //www.nan			··• y /	

NAMI-SCC welcomes your membership. Memberships are valid for one year. (Part of the membership dues enrolls you at NAMI State and National, which, in turn, automatically registers you as a member at all levels.) Your additional donations help ensure that we are able to maintain our office, as well as our educational programs. Your membership and donations are tax deductible. **Tax #94-2430956**