

NAMI Santa Clara County Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 6th July 2021, 5:30 PM, by Videoconference

Attendance: Vic Ojakian, Bev Lozoff, Navah Statman, Juan Perez, Harold Brown, Uday Kapoor, Steve Wade, Karen Deloumi, Frank Alioto, Kathy Forward, Peter Newman.

Meeting convened at 5:33 PM.

1. **Welcome**

- a. Agenda approved.
- b. Jun 1st, 2021 BoD minutes approved.

2. **Action**

- a. **NAMI Outreach—Karen:** Public relations, getting our name out there, is something we desire. We need to take it on as side project. A small committee has met twice including: Karen, Harold, Bev, Kyle, Rovina, Frank and Moryt. We know this is important but we are uncertain how quickly we can move on this. People don't know who we are until a crisis cycle hits. We need to expand our name recognition, document a public relations plan and come up with a new tag line. At the last meeting we discussed where to focus our time. We discussed working with corporate Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) and school districts. We need to build a test case and see what works. **Harold:** El Camino Hospital has an EAP, these are really big organizations, bigger than we are. Harold will call NAMI National for input. **Navah:** suggested there should be some materials from a few years ago that we put together for EAPs. Also, see the NAMI National Marketing Kit regarding a new tag line. **Vic:** asked whether NAMI CA has anything. There is a kit on their website.
- b. **Conflict of Interest Form—Bev:** Bev spoke about our conflict of interest policy and form. She has compared ours to those of other organizations. She has corrected a few things in our policy document and updated the form to better reflect what we are doing. She will distribute the updated policy and form. Each of us should sign the form and return it to Bev if we agree with the policy.

3. **Reports and Updates**

- a. **Treasurer Update—Steve:** Please refer to the Treasurer's Report and the Balance Sheet, the Profit & Loss and the Budget vs. Actual statements as of end Jun 2021. We are at 126% of budget in revenue and have a \$122k increase in cash at \$747k. Accounts receivable are down \$32k with \$62k remaining to collect. We received \$57k in individual contributions, \$100k in Jly from El Camino and \$60k from the county Board of Supervisors. We are at 96% of budget for expenses. Payroll and office expenses are a little below budget. We budgeted a loss YTD of \$258k but are currently at a loss of \$117k. Everything is going well. Harold observed that it is an unusual year. We are over budget with both grants and individual donations. We are at 130% of budgeted grants. We will be over \$800k in cash again by end Jly. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented was passed.
- b. **VP Updates:**
 - i. **Uday:** (1) Uday has submitted an action plan on the outcome of our recent panel discussion on housing. There was discussion of recent communications regarding the plan. (2) Uday spoke at the recent BoS meeting. Sherri Terao presented a letter that was forwarded to us. Housing was only one component. (3) The Behavioral Health Board is not getting any traction on the placeholder ad hoc committee. (4) The MHSA Independent Living Empowerment Project funding was getting close to being approved. We are not getting clear answers about where it stands. (5) Uday reported on his communication with Ky Le—the state has set aside \$800M for housing. (6) Margaret Obilor wants to meet with Uday as a result of his speaking at the BoS meeting. (7) The “Bridging the Gap, Services for I/DD and

Mental Health”symposium is moving along. **Navah:** Spoke about appropriate housing for people with severe mental health disabilities. None of the services are focused on them. When MHSA programs come up we need to make sure that most of the money is focused on this population. We are giving short term service to people with a chronic illness.

- ii. **Juan:** The support group is very successful with about 20 attendees every Fri. We also have two active chat rooms in WhatsApp. Juan spoke about a gathering for Louisa Perez who is in urgent care. Vic spoke about a county survey on suicide prevention for adult males focused on the Spanish speaking community. Vic will obtain a copy of the report.

c. **Presidents' Updates**

- i. **Bev:** No report.

- ii. **Vic:** (1) There are Zoom meetings about jail replacement coming up. (2) Vic spoke about Allcove, a mental health program for young people aged 12-25. It is similar to a program developed in Australia that has achieved good results for youth suicide prevention. Dr Steven Adelsheim from Stanford is on the team. One has opened up in Palo Alto and another in San Jose. (3) Vic spoke about AB 1766 and some discussion followed. (4) The Annual Picnic will be held in Nov. (5) We will continue our board meetings online for now. **Harold:** misses seeing us all and expressed the hope that opportunities to meet in person will arise.

- d. **Executive Director Report—Kathy:** Please refer to the Executive Director's Report for details. (Kathy gave the ED Report in Rovina's absence.) We have received the grant from El Camino Hospital Foundation this year for the full amount of \$100k. Kyle has resigned from his position. We are looking for a Walk manager. We have hired John Forward to do all the social media. We are working with Upto Good again. Rovina and Lisa have given presentations to corporations. Without an event planner we decided to move the picnic to Thanksgiving. The Walk will definitely be a hybrid event with virtual entertainment. The launch for the Walk on Jun 7 went well. Rovina and Frank have met with some members of the Board of Supervisors.

- e. **Consultant Report—Kathy:** Please refer to the Consultant's Report for a detailed list of programs, events and meetings. Classes have all ended. Funds from the county for education and the Warmline will roll over. We are updating our F2F teachers to the new eight week course. One course is in person; the rest are online. We have one P2P and one Provider course starting this month. Most support groups want to continue online. We gave four IOOV presentations, two at CIT trainings and two at F2F classes. There were no EtS presentations.

f. **Fundraising Committee Update—Harold:**

- i. **Funding Plans and Grants Status:** There was a brief discussion regarding the Lions Club, Los Gatos. At some point we need to nominate candidates to the Advisory Board. Navah's list of prospective candidates was discussed. Harold is working on an estate planing idea he will discuss with NAMI National. **Kathy:** We received a \$40k grant from our landlord for the Community Peer Mentor Program.
- ii. **NAMIWalk:** Harold was pleased to hear that John Forward will join us to work on social media. We need to round up sponsors. We are following through with the hospitals. We have received no response from Stanford.

- g. **Community Peer Program and FaithNet—Kathy:** Please refer to the FaithNet reports for Apr and May (there is no Community Peer Program report). Lourdes has moved to Mexico. She will still volunteer with the Spanish program. We had six mentor matches and one connector in Jun. Stanford Addiction Clinic has extended their contract to 2023. The FaithNet grant ends in Sep. We will bid for an extension to Mar. FaithNet is going well; we have just hired someone from African Ancestry.

- h. **Newsletter—Bev:** Work on the Sep issue will begin in Aug. Bev drew the board's attention to some really good articles in the current issue of the newsletter.

- i. **General Meeting—Bev:** The next General Meeting will be held on Sep 14th. The new medical director at Stanford will give a presentation on substance use disorder.

4. **Other Actions**

- a. **Legislative Committee: Legislation Updates—Frank:** (1) Frank introduced Governor Newsom's revision to the state budget. There is a \$75B surplus in the state budget. It is proposed to spend \$12B for housing. Originally the budget contained 28,000 beds for behavioral health. In the final version we still have \$12B for housing the 65,000 homeless Californians. The funds will also be used to rebuild the California mental health system and to alleviate the effects of COVID. Frank is uncertain exactly what that means. There will be a focus on younger adults and children. (2) Frank has a list of 35 to 40 bills we are following that he will distribute to the board. We want to post it on the website using a tool Karen has been looking into. There was discussion of the difficulties of searching and tracking mental health bills which the tool can help with. Two bills were mentioned aimed at getting continuity of services across the state, one aimed at emergency services and the other at non-emergency services. (3) Frank spoke about the meetings with Supervisors Cindy Chavez and Susan Ellenberg. Cindy Chavez wanted to talk about collaboration with NAMI. We are very well respected. We can give meaningful input to her. In addition, we have received a response from Zoe Lofgren. (4) There followed discussion of the issue of another jail or a hospital. We will have an opportunity for direct input to the President of the Board of Supervisors. **Navah:** This is a very tricky question. We cannot leave the jail in the condition it is in. Clearly we need more hospital beds. We need to discuss this issue in depth if we are to provide input as an organization. We need to be very careful not to abuse the relationship that is developing.

New Business:

- i. No new business.

5. **Dates to Remember**

- a. Next Board Meeting: Tues 3rd Aug 2021 at 5:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Newman

Jly 15, 2021