





A YEAR OF PARTNERSHIPS





Annual Report 2015—2016

HIGHLIGHTS & TOP ACHIEVEMENTS

Greater family participation in treatment due to new regulatory language adopted through NAMI NJ advocacy - in emergency screening, short term care, assertive community treatment and state hospitals.

16 COUNTIES IN NEW JERSEY

received mental health training for law enforcement and judiciary through NAMI NJ and our collaborators.

Advocates trained through NAMI Smarts can transform their passion and lived experience into skillful grassroots advocacy.



Four counties now offer NAMI Basics, an education program for families with young children living with mental illness. Classes are in development in two more counties. Basics was also offered in Spanish.

345 **MEMBERS**

took a 12 week course at 23 locations around the state through NAMI NJ Family-to-Family Education, learning how to cope and support their loved ones diagnosed with a mental illness. For the first time on Their loved ones diagnosed with a mental the the east coast, Family-to-Family classes were offered in Chinese.





cast for 63 poems to select the winners of the 2016 Dara Axelrod Expressive Arts Poetry Contest.



Caregivers were recognized, heard and supported at the first statewide Caring for the Caregiver Forum supported by Mv Healios.



7000 SUBSCRIBERS received the NAMI NJ Science Update, an e-newsletter that features the latest developments in research on mental illness. The Update is funded by the NIMH Outreach Partnership Grant that NAMI NJ was awarded to disseminate accurate and science based information on mental illness.

Our Website at www.naminj.org received 34,784 unique visitors, 49,389 visits and 132,382 page views.



264 emails were sent to over 7000 subscribers on topics ranging from advocacy to new resources and information.

Social media presence surged: Facebook (805 Likes), Twitter (1,269 Followers), YouTube (1,437 Channel Views)

5000 people attended **170** In Our Own Voice presentations featuring the proven way to combat stigma – personal stories of people living with mental illness. This includes monthly presentations in VA inpatient psychiatric facilities, using a new Veterans Resource Handout.

1500 people attended 42 Hearts & Minds presentations to learn how to maintain physical health and overall wellness while living with mental illness.

22 locations now offer support groups for people with mental illness all over New Jersey through NAMI Connection.





to NAMI NJ multicultural programs were offered culturally competent support and information in their language of choice. **450** calls were responded to in Spanish alone, and other languages requested by callers included Mandarin, Cantonese and Hindi.



110 educators

in New Jersey made aware of mental illness signs and symptoms in children and teens through Educating the Educator presentations.

Legislators heard from NAMI NJ School program staff about improving mental health of students at a hearing by the NJ State Legislature.

Updated lessons on stress relief were added to Every Mind Matters, an educational program presented to middle and high school students. New books on mental health and education were reviewed and added to a teacher resource list.



Partnerships included the NJ Federation of Women's Clubs, whose members raised \$130,989 for mental health awareness, with over \$80,000 in in-kind donations, and the very first Children's Mental Health Conference in collaboration with Lions Clubs International and Special Olympics of New Jersey.

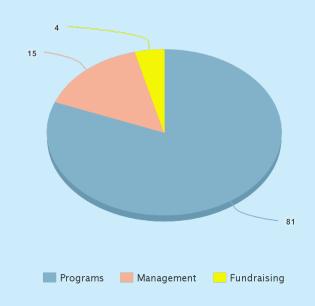


1500 WALKERS



participated in the annual NAMIWalks NJ in May, and raised \$150,000 to fund NAMI programs at the state and local level to support, educate and advocate for those affected by mental illness.





THANK YOU DONORS!

Without your generous help, NAMI New Jersey could not continue to provide our free programs of support, education, and advocacy throughout the state of New Jersey.

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