Hello NAMI Members,

Happy New Year to all Kenosha City and County NAMI members! With the new year comes the making of new resolutions and the setting of new goals.

We, at NAMI Kenosha County, have several new goals for the coming year. Some of these goals may seem quite lofty and others may seem reasonable and obtainable.

Looking to the future, we want to continue to strengthen our mission of education, support and advocacy for those in our community with mental illness and their families. We will do this by maintaining the events, outreach and educational programs that we have in place and perhaps creating a few new ones. This perspective not only includes providing NAMI signature programs such as Family to Family and Ending the Silence, but also includes our partnerships with other entities such as Bridges Community Center, Oxford Houses in Kenosha, Kenosha County Treatment Court as well as the Kenosha Police Department and Kenosha County Sheriff Department. All of these programs and partnerships will continue.

Three new goals for NAMI Kenosha County for 2019 include:

1. Expanding awareness of NAMI in the county.
2. Expanding awareness of NAMI on all college campuses, especially Carthage College.
3. Expanding NAMI’s presence in minority communities throughout Kenosha County.

To hear more about the details of these new goals and offer your ideas for implementation, please come to the Annual Meeting on February 28th, 2019. We will meet following the support groups at 7:30 pm at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church.

In looking back over the fourth quarter of 2018, there have been a few highlights. One was our Holiday Party on December 1st. It was a special and joyous occasion where many Kenosha citizens had a wonderful time. This may have been their only holiday party throughout the season. Thank you, Janet DeLeo, for chairing this event. For more details about this occasion look for Janet’s article elsewhere in this newsletter.

NAMI has been quite involved in Treatment Court this year. Our local affiliate plays a very important role in this effort to divert people with nonviolent mental health issues/crimes away from jail and into treatment. If you want to know more, turn to Tom Simons and Kris Coen’s articles about this part of our local judicial system. Thank you, Tom and Kris!

Finally, there is CIT: Crisis Intervention Team Training. This is a program created for law enforcement to help officers learn the warning signs of mental illness and diffuse crisis situations. Jack Rose has been instrumental in getting this program here in Kenosha and maintaining its integrity. Read Jack’s article in this edition for more information.

To all NAMI Kenosha County members….have a wonderful new year! See you all on February 28th for the Annual Meeting. Come and let your voice be heard!

Lisa Zanin and Janet DeLeo
Co-Presidents
NAMI Kenosha County
Board of Directors
Co-Presidents
Janet DeLeo
Lisa Zanin
Treasurer
Dick Guenther
Secretary
Officer Kelly Andrichik
Members at Large
Kris Coen
Mark Jaros
Alex Munoz
Jack Rose
Adalia Shchurowsky
Tom Simons
Walter Stern
Officer Jeff Wamboldt
Steve Solms, Member Emeritus

Mark Your Calendar 2019

Support Group at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church 6:00-7:30 pm.
We meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.
Our Support Groups in town have two sessions conducted simultaneously:
One for family/friends and one for adults with mental illness living in recovery.

February 14th and 28th  March 14th and 28th
April 11th and 25th  May 9th and 23rd

Support Group at County Building, Corner of Highways 50 and 45.
This Support Group meets once a month on the second Thursday of each month
in the morning at 9:00 am and the 4th Thursday at 6:00 pm.
This group is only for family and friends.

February 14th,  March 14th,  April 11th,  May 9th,  @ 9:00 am
February 28th,  March 28th,  April 25th,  May 23rd,  @ 6:00 pm

Young Adult Support Group at UW Parkside-
This group will begin meeting this fall. Consult the NAMI Kenosha County
website or Facebook for meeting dates and times.

NAMI Board Meetings: February 7th, March 7th, April 4th, May 2nd,
@ 5:30 at Bridges Community Center.

NAMI Events

Annual Meeting: All NAMI Members invited February 28th 7:30 pm,
following the Support Meetings at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church

Family To Family 12 week course sponsored by NAMI Kenosha County, Tuesday nights, January 8th thru March 26th at the
Job Center and at the County Building

CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) at Gateway January 21st thru
January 25th

Annual Mental Health Awareness Vigil is May 22nd in Civic Park.
The Vigil is a partnership between NAMI and Bridges Community Center

NAMI Wisconsin State Conference- Alliant Energy Center, Madison, April 26th and 27th

Advocacy Day, in May in Madison (Further details on the website.)

NAMI Kenosha County is now on Facebook!
Follow us so that you can get the latest updates on Support, Education, and
Advocacy, including Events for fundraising, promoting recovery, fighting stigma,
and community presentations associated with mental illness.
Find us at www.facebook.com/NAMIKENOSHACOUNTY/

Get short, timely messages from NAMI
Twitter is a rich source of instantly updated
information. It’s easy to stay updated on an
incredibly wide variety of topics. Join today and
follow @NAMICommunicate

Membership Renewal
Please check your mailing label to
determine when your membership
is up for renewal. In order to
renew just use the blank form in
the newsletter and mail to
NAMI Kenosha
P.O. Box 631 Kenosha, WI

World Wide Web
Find NAMI on the WEB
www.nami.org
NAMI Kenosha
www.namikenosha.org
NAMI WI
www.namiwisconsin.org
NAMI Racine
www.nami.racine.org

*Organized in 1983*NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. is a non-profit corporation 501 (c) (3)
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (ONE YEAR) INCLUDES:  *NAMI Wisconsin dues and NAMI dues
Please send to:  NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. PO Box 631 Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141
On Saturday, December 1, 2018 NAMI Kenosha County hosted our 29th Annual Holiday Party for people coping with mental illness and their families. We were pleased to welcome 145 guests who enjoyed a wonderful meal, great entertainment, desserts, gifts and warm fellowship at the Reuther High School gymnasium. The day’s festivities began with our guests relaxing while listening to the Lioness Choristers perform various songs of the season, followed by a delicious meal including dessert, and ending with the distribution of gifts. We are thankful that Reuther High School/Harborside Academy graciously allows us to hold this event there every year, and to Andy Moore and Paul Wamboldt who set up the tables and chairs in the gym and handle so many details that made the day run smoothly. Paielli’s Bakery donated a beautiful and very tasty cake, while the Lioness Club of Kenosha made dozens of delicious cookies that so many of our guests look forward to every year. We have the Lioness Choristers to thank for the holiday music that got us all in the mood of the season, and Dave Marifern and the Kenosha Firefighter’s Care Program for the donation of sloppy joe’s and buns. Once again, Hometown Meats did a great job preparing and delivering the delicious meal that everyone enjoyed. The Kenosha Police Explorer Cadets did a wonderful job at a variety of tasks – from helping with the set up, serving coffee and cake, to taking down tables and chairs at the end of the event. Their willingness to jump in and do whatever was necessary was a great help and blessing. Santa Claus (aka Jeff Wamboldt) came to bring joy the hearts of our youngest guests, and after hearing their holiday wishes, sent them off with a sweet treat. Of course, we are very grateful to the 30 NAMI volunteers who came out and made this a day to remember for our guests – your help was much appreciated. We look forward to our 30th Holiday Party on Saturday, December 7th at Reuther High School. If you would like to volunteer, please call Janet DeLeo at 262-960-6656.
A Court of Refuge: Stories from The Bench of America’s First Mental Health Court
by Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren

Reviewed by Kris Koen

This is the story of America’s first Mental Health Court as told by its presiding judge, Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren – from its inception in 1997 to its implementation in over 400 courts across the nation. You will read about real-life stories of people living with mental illness as they intersect with the legal system.

As a young lawyer, Judge Ginger Lerner-Wren bore witness to the consequences of an underdeveloped mental health care infrastructure. Unable to do more than offer guidance, she watched families being torn apart as client after client was ensnared in the criminal justice system for crimes committed as a result of addiction, homelessness, and severe mental illness.

In A Court of Refuge, Judge Lerner-Wren tells the story of how the court grew from an offshoot of her criminal division without the aid of any federal funding, to a revolutionary institution that has successfully diverted more than 20,000 people with serious mental illness from jail and into treatment facilities and other community resources. Working under the theoretical framework of therapeutic jurisprudence, Judge Wren and her growing network of fierce, determined advocates, families, and supporters sparked a national movement of using courts as a place of healing.

This book demonstrates that though mental health courts offer some relief in under-served communities, they can only serve as a single piece of a new focus on the vast overhaul of the policies that got us here. Lerner-Wren crafts a refreshing possibility for a future where our legal system and mental health infrastructure work in step to decriminalize rather than stigmatize. It is a brilliant example of how the criminal justice system can become a healing justice system.

Kenosha County has followed in the footsteps of this innovative and revolutionary approach by establishing the Kenosha County Treatment Court which has become a lifesaving diversion from the criminal court by intercepting people when they need our help the most.
Kenosha County Treatment Court –
A Lifesaving Diversion from Criminal Court
By Tom Simons

What is Kenosha County Treatment Court?
The Kenosha County Treatment Court is an intervention program for adults who have pled guilty to one or more crimes related to their severe and persistent mental illness and/or drug or alcohol addiction and are having difficulty stabilizing in their recovery. Treatment intervention is structured around the authority and personal involvement of the Treatment Court Judge and the Team of Treatment Court Professionals, of which NAMI Kenosha County is a member. By working together, they seek to provide a variety of programs and supervision that support and help maintain a stable life free from illegal drugs and alcohol. Originally established in 2013 as the Behavioral Health Treatment Court, the goal was to stabilize people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders in order to keep them from returning to the criminal court system. Service providers affiliated with the program help participants receive therapy, medications, housing and employment as appropriate.

Kenosha County Treatment Court enhances public safety and personal recovery by providing intensive supervision, evidenced based treatment, and cost-effective services to convicted nonviolent adult offenders who endure severe and persistent mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

Kenosha’s Drug and Alcohol Treatment Court originally began in 2009 when the first Drug Court participant was accepted on August 19, 2009. In January of 2017 the Kenosha County Drug and Alcohol Treatment Court absorbed the Behavioral Health Treatment Court and was renamed simply The Kenosha County Treatment Court, a seamless transition.

The Treatment Court program is not just about medical treatment. It is also about establishing a good support system and mentoring individuals on skills they need to stay well, and to become organized and independent. It helps participants develop life skills and a routine that they can maintain which includes therapy, medications, safe and secure housing and employment. The goal is to transform the individual into a productive member of our community.

How does the program work?
Initially a defendant must attend court on a weekly basis. Over time this frequency can reduce to twice per month and then once per month. During this time, a defendant must meet with their probation officer, a program coordinator, attend treatment, take drug tests, and perform assigned tasks like seeking housing and/or employment. If a participant in the program is unemployed, they will be assigned to work crew or community service. Drug and Alcohol testing is a major component of the program. Any drug or alcohol addictions are treated as a co-occurring disorder.

Who is Eligible?
Individuals with a history of criminal convictions and a severe and persistent mental illness, which contributes to why he or she is in court. These defendants have demonstrated that they are of high risk and high needs. Eligible participants are identified through screenings and must be diagnosed with a moderate to severe substance abuse disorder and/or significant behavioral health diagnosis. To be accepted, individuals must be willing to abide by the Treatment Court program rules. Once they are accepted into the program, they are placed on probation with the specifically trained probation agent and develop a treatment plan that is created by the whole team: their agent, the Judge, Court Coordinator, Treatment professionals, and case workers, with regular status hearings in front of the Judge.

How can a defendant join the program?
The program operates on a referral system. Individuals are recommended for the program by others (such as attorneys and probation officers), but this does not always mean automatic acceptance into the program. Once accepted by the program, the defendant is assigned a case manager to help them navigate the program services and requirements.

Who manages the program?
Judge Jodi L. Meier oversees the program and determines if participants are meeting their goals and what consequences they may receive. When goals are met, incentives are provided like gas station gifts cards. If goals aren’t met, participants receive consequences like community sanctions or jail time.

Jodi L. Meier is a judge for the Kenosha County Circuit Court, presiding over Branch 7. She was appointed to the bench in July 2016 and elected in 2017 to a 6-year term. Judge Meier received her undergraduate degree from Marquette University in 1988 and her J.D. from Marquette University Law School in 1991. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Meier was an attorney in private practice since 1991, predominantly practicing in the criminal and family courts. She was a Guardian ad Litem for Kenosha County since 2005 representing children and vulnerable adults in the court system. In 2015, Judge Meier was appointed a Court Commissioner by Judge Chad Kerkman.
NAMI Support Expands to Youths at Parkside by Adalia Shchurowsky

Following a pilot program of support services in the 2018 spring semester at UW-Parkside, NAMI Kenosha decided with the approval of Parkside counselors and associates to host a daytime group for students and other young people on campus in the fall of 2018. With the assistance of Stephanie Masse, currently a junior at Parkside and President of the Active Minds club, Adalia Shchurowsky and Sabrina Northern led the bi-weekly support group. Many students attended and were able to speak with other students dealing with similar mental health issues, school-related problems and other topics. The group is open to college-aged youth in the community. Overall the group has been a success and will continue to be offered in the spring of 2019 on the Parkside campus.

Come One, Come All!
The annual NAMI Kenosha County Meeting will be held on February 28th, 2019 at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church! We need you! Support your local NAMI affiliate by attending the meeting. Come for support group at 6 pm and stay for the annual meeting at 7:30 pm.

15 NEW PAGES ON THE WEBSITE! www.namikenosha.org
Visit our website to find more new information! The site is averaging 3800 unique visitors per week!

SUPPORT
Kenosha County Opioid Initiative
Finding A Therapist
Rehab Accreditation
Equine Therapy
Psychiatric Service Dogs
Faith Leaders
Crisis Phone Numbers - National list
Holiday Blues

ADVOCACY:
Stigma
Medicare
Research
Workplace Mental Health
Voting Rights of People with Mental Illness

EDUCATION
Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) and Conduct Disorder (CD)
Drug Duration in The Body
Medication Withdrawal

*Organized in 1983*NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. is a non-profit corporation 501 ( c ) (3)
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (ONE YEAR) INCLUDES:  *NAMI Wisconsin dues and NAMI dues
Please send to:  NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. PO Box 631 Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141
CIT/CIP Training Comes to Kenosha in 2010
by Jack Rose, NAMI Kenosha County

The “Circle of Care,” a strong nucleus of CIT/CIP trained folks in the community, has arrived in Kenosha. NAMI Kenosha County Human Services, in conjunction with the Kenosha Police Department, Kenosha County, Gateway Technical College, and NAMI Greater Milwaukee, has initiated Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and Crisis Intervention Partner (CIP) training in 2010. Judge Mary Wagner and her Kenosha County Judicial committee were instrumental in promoting CIT to our community in 2007. NAMI Kenosha sent its first three KPD officers to the initial training at NAMI Fox Valley in Appleton, WI in August 2007. Helen Geyso, former NAMI Kenosha County President and advocate provided some initial funding for CIT from an Eli Lilly grant.

Sgt John Rohde, Kenosha Police Department, March 2009 graduate of NAMI Fox Valley’s CIT training course, has stepped up in helping to champion CIT/CIP to Kenosha County. Both Chief John Morrissey, KPD and Sheriff David Beth, KSD have been very supportive of both CIT and CIP. Initially we have completed two Crisis Intervention Partner (CIP) training sessions, February 8-9 and June 14-15, 2010, and one Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, May 17-21, 2010. The trainings are held at Gateway Technical College which is an excellent training site. The collaborative effort of Sgt. Ray Merlin, Kenosha Sheriffs Dept and Gateway Technical College instructor; Jim Truchan, Behavioral Health Services Manager for Kenosha County Human Services; Peter Hoeffel, Executive Director of NAMI Greater Milwaukee; and Brenda Wesley, NAMI Greater Milwaukee’s Education and Outreach Coordinator, has been outstanding. A second CIT training session was completed November 8–12, 2010. Mental Health America of Wisconsin through the SE Wisconsin Crisis Grant has provided the funding to support this valuable training, which is provided at no cost to the attendees. Initially we also partnered with the Kenosha Achievement Center to provide lunches for both the CIT and CIP trainings, as well as bus transportation for site visits during the CIT training. Both trainings have received high marks on the course critiques. Early on, NAMI Kenosha County was the first in the state to implement daily evaluations for both CIT and CIP and have continued to do so.

NAMI Kenosha must also acknowledge the tremendous support of NAMI Fox Valley Executive Director, Karen Aspenson, and Sgt. John Wallschlaeger of the Appleton Police Department, NAMI Racine Executive Director, Debby Ganaway, Deputy Chief Tom Christensen of the Racine Police Department, and State Representative Sandy Pasch in facilitating the timely introduction of this training to Kenosha. State Representative Pasch, who is also a psychiatric nurse, is the founder of CIP in Wisconsin and initially served as a training presenter. This collaborative effort is essential in maintaining the requisite fidelity of this evidence-based training. It works and we need to do more of it.

In support of this training, NAMI Kenosha provided grants to two members of the Kenosha Police Department, Assistant Chief Tom Genthner and Sgt. John Rohde, to attend the International CIT Conference in San Antonio, Texas, June 1-3, 2010. The conference was an excellent educational opportunity to further enhance the training provided here in Kenosha County. New and innovative ideas in CIT/CIP, as well as contacts and resources available through the conference, can only better serve our community.

CIT/CIP is a dynamic collaboration of law enforcement, community agencies and organizations committed to ensuring that individuals with mental health issues are referred to appropriate support and services rather than thrust into the criminal justice system. The CIT/CIP “Circle of Care” is invaluable to our community’s well being.

Since 2014, the Mary Frost Ashley Charitable Trust has provided significant financial support for the Kenosha CIT/CIP program and continues to do so. To date, we have completed 207 CIT graduates and 876 CIP graduates at the Kenosha GTC training facility.

Officer Luke Hofmann, KPD, is the current coordinator of Kenosha CIT/CIP Training. Our next CIT #10 is scheduled for Jan 21-25, 2019. We have been requested by local law enforcement to provide CIT training to officers who have just completed their GTC police academy training. CIT #10 will be a pilot program with the new class; more to follow.

*Organized in 1983*NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. is a non-profit corporation 501 ( c ) (3)
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (ONE YEAR) INCLUDES: *NAMI Wisconsin dues and NAMI dues
Please send to: NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. PO Box 631 Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The mailing label should include the expiration date for your membership. If you haven’t been receiving the state or national publications please let us know. The national publication is sent four times a year and the state mailing are bi-monthly.

NAMI Membership...

I am interested in an Annual Membership

☐ $60.00 Household Membership  ☐ $40.00 Regular Membership  ☐ $5.00 Open Door (Low Income)

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution to NAMI, Kenosha County

__________ $Enclosed. DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED

Please make checks payable to NAMI Kenosha County

NAME________________________________________ ADDRESS________________________________________

CITY________________________ STATE_________ ZIP_________ PHONE_________________

EMAIL________________________________________  Note: Membership is for a year from the date of joining

*Organized in 1983*NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. is a non-profit corporation 501 ( c ) (3)
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (ONE YEAR) INCLUDES: *NAMI Wisconsin dues and NAMI dues
Please send to: NAMI Kenosha County, Inc. PO Box 631 Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141