



National Alliance on Mental Illness

**NAMI**

Erie County  
Ohio

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

 FALL 2024 

Hello to all!

We hope that this quarterly newsletter finds everyone in good health and high spirits. They say that summer is a season for growth - and nothing could be closer to the truth for NAMI of Erie County! We literally “branched out” this September by adding an entirely NEW branch to our affiliate - that of our wonderful volunteers. Six amazing individuals have signed up to donate their time and talents to the NAMI mission. This will enable our affiliate to provide more programs, presentations, and services in our county.

Needless to say, the Volunteer Lunch & Learn we held on September 8th was a smashing success. Jersey Mike’s and its employees are truly mental health champions! Jersey Mike’s of Sandusky was kind enough to donate a multitude of fresh, tasty sub sandwiches and beverages for our luncheon. There was much to learn and even more to eat. Adding our new volunteers is a huge step in the right direction.

Speaking of steps, the S.A.R.C.C Recovery Walk 2024 was an event to behold. Inspiration abounds while watching families, couples, and individuals walk together in the name of Recovery! We were proud to have a NAMI table present at the event and we are grateful that S.A.R.C.C allowed us the opportunity to spread our message to the Recovery community. We are already looking forward to next year!

Just a week prior to the Recovery Walk was the Ohio Department of Veterans Services Family Fun & Wellness Expo! ODVS was kind enough to invite us to participate. It was an excellent event where family fun and resources were never in short supply. Thank you to ODVS for everything you provide for our veterans and their families.

We are particularly excited to announce the introduction of our first NAMI of Erie County Scholarship! This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to an Erie County high school student for the 2025 academic year. All Erie County high school students who apply for our scholarship and are planning to pursue a degree in a behavioral health field will be considered! Please pass the word along to your family and friends. We are brimming with anticipation to assist a deserving high school student in reaching their full potential.

This summer was flooded with opportunities to make an impact for mental health! We have proudly partnered with The Kaptur-Rogowski House, a short-term mental health treatment center in Sandusky, where individuals experiencing a mental health crisis can get care for both their physical and mental health needs. We know that their skilled staff is going to do great things and we look forward to spreading the word about their services and lending a helping hand when needed.

We were so grateful to make new friends at The Sandusky Library in July! NAMI Erie donated \$500 for the libraries in the Erie County network to purchase materials on mental illness. Keep an eye out for these NAMI-endorsed books at your next visit to the library!

Erie County Family & Children First Council and NAMI Erie are combining our resources to start a Youth Move chapter in Erie County! Youth Move is a youth-driven, chapter-based organization dedicated to improving services and systems that support positive growth and development by uniting the voices of individuals who have lived experience in various systems including mental health, juvenile justice, education, and child welfare.

It's already that time of year - time to start planning our 2nd Annual Colors of Emotion Art Competition Fundraiser! Last year we had so much fun, and we look forward to seeing everyone again in 2025. The art competition premise has stayed the same but our date and venue have changed! We are hosting our fundraiser on March 29th, 2025 at the beautiful Sawmill Creek Resort. We promise to let everyone know just as soon as tickets go on sale.

That's all for now! Please reach out to us with any questions - we would love to hear from you.

Yours truly,  
The NAMI of Erie County Advisory Committee

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