

Dear NAMI Dubuque Supporter:

We thank you for partnering with us to further our mission in mental health advocacy!

Your contributions support our local nonprofit and national efforts in the creation of new signature NAMI programming while helping us to provide free support services as well as advocating for adequate, equitable, and affordable mental health care across the United States.

So, what have we been up to locally?

This year, NAMI Dubuque has served our community in the following capacity:

- We have hosted over 40 Connection Recovery (Peer) Support Groups between our office and psychiatric care units.
- We have welcomed back our signature classes of Peer-to-Peer and Family-to-Family with fantastic attendance!
- We have consistently scheduled our core presentations of In Our Own Voice and Ending The Silence and are looking for more agencies, businesses and schools to connect with while we work to expand our programming, including an updated FaithNet Program.
- Our President led a discussion at the Clarke University Symposium, for continuing education in mental health care which had over 200 registered participants.
- Launched our Recovery Bags made possible from the 100+ Men Who Care (Tri-States).
- Began awareness campaigns and have increased our suicide resources made possible by the Matthew Boland Benefit from Dyersville, Iowa.
- We are now facilitating WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plans) Workshops.
- Sponsored a scholarship program for minority mental health services at Centrally Rooted made possible by the Gallagher Family Foundation.
- Participated in community dialogue about brain health and continue to provide resources to the Tri-State area.
- Have started our initial plans to host an amazing awareness/fundraising event at Steeple Square in April of 2022! Details to follow!

And, how are we growing?

This year has also been a wonderful year for growth within our organization as we have reached a milestone within NAMI Dubuque.

Since 1997, NAMI Dubuque has been an all-volunteer lead organization and we are so very happy to announce our chapter's acceptance to the AmeriCorps VISTA Program! NAMI Dubuque welcomed OUR FIRST full-time Program Expansion Coordinator on December 6th, 2021 through AmeriCorps VISTA and we are so grateful!

This appointment to NAMI Dubuque means we can focus our efforts in strengthening our programming, support groups, recruit new volunteers & facilitators for our organization and work to take our programs into rural areas surrounding Dubuque. We are hoping to add an additional VISTA to our chapter in 2022. What an accomplishment for NAMI Dubuque!

Now, what do we need?

Our most immediate need is the expansion of our Family Support Group. We are looking for dedicated individuals who would be available and have an invested interest in NAMI Dubuque as a family member, caregiver or loved one who would be willing to help us, help others. Training for Family Support Group is provided by NAMI and stipends are made available for anyone hosting our programs.

We are also in need of operational support beyond the appointments of the AmeriCorp Vista Program. Our nonprofit would not be sustainable without the hard work of the dedicated individuals who oversee the organization. While this is the first time, we are choosing to make this a priority, we feel it is important for the long-term success of NAMI Dubuque. Our operational support requires financial sustainability, and we are asking for financial contributions to help strengthen this part of our nonprofit. Please contact us directly if you are interested in this support opportunity.

NAMI Dubuque is also focusing on brand awareness and campaign support. We believe that reducing stigma and keeping the dialogue open is an essential part of having accessible, affordable, mental health care. We are looking for community partners to share our resources, presentations, and to collaborate on educational events for our members and the tri-state area. We are also looking forward to expanding our awareness campaigns beyond the tri-state area!

And, of course, in-kind giftings are one of the many capacity building staples of our organization which go to support all our needs. We operate on in-kind donations and rely on the support of families, individuals, our members, groups, businesses, and agencies to keep NAMI Dubuque a viable nonprofit organization. Our programs, support groups, resource material and presentations are free to the public.

Please, keep in mind!

NAMI Dubuque we would not be able to serve our community without the acknowledgment and support from our organizational peers and community at-large and we thank everyone who has supported us during our times of growth, and we look forward to the future of being a sustainable nonprofit!

Please consider joining our mission to support, educate and advocate by giving or becoming a member, today, or making a year-end tax-deductible contribution to:

NAMI Dubuque 900 Jackson St Ste LL5-2B Dubuque, IA 52001-5006. (563) 557-6264 / <u>namidbq@gmail.com</u>

Online giving information is available at: https://www.namidubuque.org/donate

New online membership opportunities are available at:

nami.org/About-NAMI/Join-NAMI

Be sure to select NAMI Dubuque as your local/state affiliate!

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you in 2022!

Britni N. Farber

President, NAMI Dubuque

For donation specific questions, please contact Britni at: president@namidubuque.org

2021 Active Board of Directors:

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