

# **Common Bond**

(810)232-6498 – www.namigenesee.org namigenesee@gmail.com July 2025

If your address changes, please call (810)232-6498 and leave your name and correct mailing address and/or e-mail address.

Mailing address: NAMI Genesee County, P.O. Box 1320, Flint, MI 48501-1320

# NAMI Genesee County Support Meetings

We offer in person support in Genesee County.

Call ahead is not required. Family support is for relatives and friends of people living with a mental health disorder.

Family Support Second and fourth Tuesdays 7-8:30 p.m. at McLaren Oak Bridge Center off S. Linden Rd., 4448 Oak Bridge Dr., Flint 48532. (810)232-6498

NAMI Connections is for people with a mental disorder. Meetings are second Tuesdays 7 -8:30 p.m. at McLaren Oak Bridge Center off the east side of S. Linden Rd., 4448 Oak Bridge Dr., Flint 48532 (810)232-6498

NAMI G.C. Board Meetings, Zoom, first Mondays, 7 p.m.

NAMI support groups, classes and most activities are free of charge. Reminder: Please do not discuss anything heard in a meeting anywhere else. NAMI does not give medical or legal advice. Please consult your doctor, pharmacist or lawyer.

NAMI F-2-F Classes

NAMI Family-to-Family classes are for family and friends of adults with mental disorders to help you with your loved one and deal with the stress of care-giving. The course is 8 weeks, 2 ½ hours. Pre-registration is required. (810)232-6498. We plan to start the next classes in the fall.

Peer-to-Peer classes are for persons living with mental illness. The series of 8 classes is to provide education about your illness and help you maintain your mental health. Call (810)232-6498 for information.

NAMI Basics OnDemand is a free, six-session online education program for family who provide care for youth aged 22 or younger who are experiencing mental health symptoms. Information and registration: <a href="https://www.basics.nami.org">www.basics.nami.org</a>

NAMI Homefront Mental Health
Resources for Military Service
Members, Veterans and Their
Families is a free online suite of
resources designed to increase
understanding, communication,
wellness and advocacy skills.
www.homefrontresources.nami.org
NAMIhomefront online is 6
classes for veterans' family
members on nami.org

NAMI Provider Training for mental health professionals, provides education to increase confidence and understanding of people with mental health issues.

We can provide speakers by request.

"Ending the Silence" is a free of charge online presentation about mental disorders to be used in schools. www.ets.nami.org

July is Bebe Moore Campbell National Minority Mental Health Month. Resources are on the website of Mental Health America info@mhanational.org

#### Notice from NAMI, July 3, 2025

Congress has acted, and it's not the outcome we wanted. Despite incredible, tireless advocacy from NAMI advocates like you, Congress has passed a budget bill, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*, that includes devastating cuts to Medicaid, and we expect the President to sign it into law shortly.

However, I'm so inspired by

NAMI's amazing advocates, and I don't want you to lose hope. You contacted Congress over 155,000 times, asking them to protect Medicaid. You showed up again and again when we reached out to you. And while this bill passed, your voices made a difference in educating people about why Medicaid matters for mental health. That momentum doesn't disappear – and it will be vital in our advocacy ahead.

We will keep fighting.
For care that's accessible and affordable for everyone.
For policies rooted in treating people with mental illness with dignity and respect.
For a mental health system that works for everyone.

# From all of us at NAMI, thank you for standing with us — now and in what comes next.

Hannah Wesolowski Chief Advocacy Officer, NAMI

#### **NAMI COMMON BOND**

The NAMI Common Bond is published monthly with exceptions by NAMI Genesee County. PO Box 1320, Flint, MI 48501-1320 Ph. 810-232-6498. Editor: Ramona Deese. Circulation: 157 copies via e-mail Board Members and Officers: President, Dave Ballenberger Vice President, Tia Coles Recording Secretary, Tarnesa Martin Treasurer, Elena Hernandez Adam Castillo Lacey Benjamin April Cook-Hawkins Ramona Deese Latressa Gordon Dante Jennings Mark Langdon Zoe Lynch **Shearese Stapleton** Danielle Snell Director Emeritus, Erma Barber Family Support Group Facilitators Ramona Deese, Karen Henry, Maureen Post, Dave Ballenberger, Jennifer Marx, Suzanne Kellom, Linda Howard

#### MEMBERSHIP FORM Annual Dues are shared between NAMI

Brain Bank Contact, (617)855-2400

Maureen Post, Karen Henry

NAMI Connections Facilitators

Genesee County, NAMI Michigan and NAMI. Memberships are for one year and include all benefits including newsletters. Your dues support NAMI's mission. You may join at www.nami.org (specify NAMI Genesee County) and pay dues on-line using a credit card, or you can fill out and mail the form below with a check. Please make checks payable to NAMI Genesee County. Mail to P.O. Box 1320, Flint, MI 48501-1320 "Open Door" membership for financially stressed people \$5 Household membership \$60 Individual membership \$40 (NAMI Genesee County is a 501c3, non-profit, tax exempt corporation.

Dues and donations may be tax deductible as allowed by law.)  NAME (s)
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP
Telephonee-mail

Please go to nami.org and pay dues to NAMI Genesee County. \$5 is O.K.; membership numbers give NAMI political power. #

# Soberfest Day of Fun

Soberfest will be Sunday, July 20, 8 a.m-5 p.m. at the Union City Ball Fields, 4151 Torrey Rd., There is no admission charge and it is a low-cost fun filled day for families. lunches are \$1. There are raffles, dancing, softball tournament. duck pond, horseshoes entertainment. NAMI will be there with an information table. Information: UAW Work and Family (810)236-6834

#### GHS Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center

The Genesee Health System held a ribbon cutting event for the new Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center located at the east side of the new GHS services center, 1040 W. Bristol Rd., Flint 48507. The Center will serve people of all ages needing urgent care for mental health conditions. It is expected to open soon with 24 hours, 7 days operation.

The center has 7 intake rooms for screening and crisis intervention. There are 16 beds for up to 72 hours for stabilization treatment for adults. There are 8 beds for crisis residential treatment for up to 14 days for adults. The décor

is beautiful, with calm colors and peaceful artwork. The Urgent Care Center is financed by the Genesee County mental health millage (your tax dollars at work).

#### I Shopped in the VIP Store at Genesee Health System

The VIP store in the main Genesee Health System building on Bristol Rd. is open to the general public 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday. I was impressed by the beautiful, reasonably priced hand-made crochet items. There are a variety of things, most handmade by persons living with mental problems. Ramona, Editor ##

### Surgeon General Warns of Increased Cancer Risk from Alcohol Consumption

In January, the U.S. Surgeon General warned that alcohol consumption is the third leading preventable cause of cancer. It is estimated that in 2019, nearly 97,000 cancer cases in the U.S. related alcohol were to consumption. The cancers included colon, rectal, throat, breast. liver. mouth esophagus. The World Health Organization also warned of cancers related to alcohol in 2025. Source: Worst Pills, Best Pills News, June 2025, www.worstpills.org ##

# Clarification of FDA Updates in Fact Sheets for Covid Vaccines

The warning on myocarditis and pericarditis in the Prescribing Information for Comirnaty and Spikevax has been updated to convey that the observed risk of myocarditis and pericarditis following vaccination with

mRNA COVID-19 vaccines has been highest in males 12 through 24 years of age and to include the following new language:

Based on analyses of commercial health insurance claims data from inpatient and outpatient settings, estimated unadiusted the incidence of myocarditis and/or pericarditis during the period 1 days following through 7 administration of the 2023-2024 Formula of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines was approximately 8 cases per million doses in individuals 6 months through 64 years of age and approximately 27 cases per million doses in males 12 through 24 years of age." Source: fda.gov ## (Editor: If you have concerns about vaccine safety, talk to your physician. The FDA recently recommended Covid boosters every 6 months for people age 65 and older, also people with medical conditions, because the benefit outweighs the risk. Ramona

FDA Warns About Some ADHD Medications for Preschoolers
The FDA is revising the labeling of all extended-release stimulants indicated to treat attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) to warn about the risk of weight loss and other adverse reactions (side effects) in patients younger than 6 years taking these medications.

If parents or guardians notice weight loss in their child taking an extended-release stimulant for ADHD, they should contact their pediatrician or other health care professional.

Parents and guardians can also ask their health care professional about alternative treatments for ADHD. Some immediate-release stimulants are approved for children younger than 6 years.

## Michigan Disability Rights for Medicaid Eligible Children

Due to a lawsuit, Michigan is providing more services for kids with mental health conditions. Information: (800)288-5923

Free health care career training: (810)232-2228 geneseehealthcarecareers.org

### **Do You Need Support Services?**

The Genesee County Prevention Coalition has a Partners in Prevention Portal with 37 links to help for everything from abuse to Veterans services. (810)285-9047 <a href="https://www.info@theGCPC.org">www.info@theGCPC.org</a> ##

#### **One Stop Housing**

Comprehensive housing placement services for Genesee County people who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of becoming homeless or have special needs.

www.ccsgc.org/onestophousing OneStopHousing@ccsgc.org ##

**Domestic Violence Hotline:** (800)799-7923

Suicide Prevention Website www.LetsTalkGenesee.com

Do You Need Help?
Dial 211 for information to get human services help.
Findhelpgenesee.org

Information for most problems, food, clothing, housing, medical care, etc. ##

# **GHS crisis services** (810)257-3740

#### GHS New Outpatient Therapy Services Location, Davison

9171 Lapeer Rd., Suite 200, Davison 48423. Therapy for anxiety, depression, grief, family problems, worry and stress. Park behind the building. ##

### GHS Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center Near Hurley

The center is located at 422 W. 4th Avenue, across the street from Hurley Hospital. (810)496-5500 (877)-346-3648 Hours are 8:00 a.m. -10:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Video chat support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with a therapist. No cost. No referral or insurance needed. Call (810)257-3705 for instructions.

Under Stress and Need to Talk? "Warm Line" Peer support 10 a.m.-2 a.m. 7 days a week. 1(888)733-7753 ##

#### **Vista Drop-in Center**

Genesee Valley Mall, Open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday (810)766-7085 www.vistacenter.info Activities and support for mentally ill and developmentally disabled adults.

#### **Disaster Distress Helpline**

Text TALKS WITH US to 66746 Available 24 hours, 7 days. ##

Mothers of Joy University mothersofjoyuniversity@gmail.com
Support and information for parents.

Help to Find Health Care Insurance For Kids Greater Flint Health Coalition (810)853-6458 ## Autism Alliance of Michigan www.lookingthroughthepuzzle.com Center for Parent Information and Resources: 1 (800)552-4821 www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org

#### **Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance Meetings**

Call before attending. Faithbased, Holy Family Church, Grand Blanc, 6:30-8 p.m. first and third Thursdays. (810)347-4706

#### **NAMI Helpline Resource** Directory

From nami.org on the left side of the home page, click on NAMI Helpline. then on Resource Directory.

#### **Help for Veterans**

Veteran's Support for Servicepersons: Crisis Line (800)273-8255 ext. 1, or text to 838255. or click the Veterans tab www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

National Call Center for Homeless <u>Veterans</u> (877)424-3838 Genesee County Dept. of Veterans Services counselor available Mon. 8-6 & Tues. 9-3 (810)257-3068 1101 Beach St., Flint 48502 Saginaw County Veteran's Affairs Call for veteran's peer support group information (810)257-3068

# Disabled American Veterans (810)742-9220

M, T, W, Th, F 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Transportation office for disabled veterans (810)742-9220

NAMI Homefront Mental Health **Resources for Military Service** Members, Veterans and Families available online 24/7 days. www.homefrontresources.nami.org

#### Medications

Reach an FDA pharmacist 888-463-6332. FDA Medwatch 800-332-1088 to report adverse drug reactions. To check on-line pharmacies: Safe.pharmacy/buy-safely or BeSafeRx:KnowY ourOnlinePharmacy vipps.nabp.net LegitScript.com To check licensing of Canadian pharmacies: cipa.com/verifypharmacy Canadian law allows generic versions of drugs to be only 80% as effective as brand names. generics must be essentially

#### **Assistance with Medical Costs** Fund

equivalent to the brands.

Assistance

1-(855)-845-3663 SAMHSA 1-(800)-662-4357 referrals to low-cost and sliding scale mental health care www.findtreatment.SAMHSA.gov

www.needymeds.org 1(800)503-6897 non-profit information source for patient assistance programs for medications and free or low-cost clinics.

To check board certifications and licensing of medical professionals, www.michigan.gov/my/license

# **Advocacy for Prisoners**

www.prisoneradvocacy.org (734)761-8283 To locate a prisoner: www.michigan.gov/corrections/ click "offender search" Citizens for Prison Reform Resource Guide: www.micpr.org

**Promise of Hope** (810)275-2690 www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org support group for family members

Smart Recovery **Family** Friends support group families of persons with addiction disorders. Saturdays 2-3 p.m. at the Bridge Church, G-3326 Corunna Rd. Flint 48532 (810)285-9047, info@thegcpc.org

**Help for Sobriety Court Members** www.partners4recovery.org

**UCAN** (United Community Addiction Network) (810)397-7175 in Genesee County ucanmichigan@gmail.com

Partnership for Drug-Free Kids, 855-3784-3733 or text 55753 Website for opioid information, addiction treatment, etc. www.KnowMoreGenesee.org

OK2SAY@mi.gov Hotline to report threatened suicide bv teenagers or threats to schools.

#### Voices for Children Advocacy Ctr.

www.voicesforac.org (810)238-3333 Ext. 209 ##

**Local GHS Crisis Services** 810-257-3740, 1-877-346-3648 genhs.org/mystrength

National Suicide Hotline 988 NAMI Helpline 1-800-950-6264 Text NAMI to 741741 to reach help in a crisis

Public Mental Health System
Board Meetings, February 2025
Genesee Health System services
1040 W. Bristol Rd., Flint MI
48507 Services: (810)257-3705
Meetings are held in the Board
room on the second floor.
Agency closed July 4.
Consumer council 7/21
Board of Directors 7/24, 4 p.m.
Finance, Programs & Evaluation
Region 10, Fri, 7/18, 9 a.m., Port
Huron

#### Saginaw Co. CMHA Board

(989)797-3400 sccmha.org Meetings are held at 500 Hancock St, Saginaw, Michigan 48602 Board of Directors, 7/14, 5:15 Recipient Rights, 7/16, 5:15 p.m. Executive Limitations, 7/23, 5:15 Ends, 7/28, 5:15

With the hot weather, it is easy to become dehydrated and become dangerously sick, especially if using certain medications. Be aware of warning signs such as heat cramps, nausea, headaches, muscle pain, high temperature, etc.. Get medical care right away for heat stroke. It can be fatal. ##