



IMPACT STATEMENT

NAMI Mobile's mission is to provide support, education, and advocacy for individuals living with mental illness and their families.

NAMI Mobile serves our community through several vital programs, which are all free and led by our trained volunteers:

-Our twelve-week Family-to Family Class is held twice a year. This class is open to families and friends of individuals with a serious mental illness. The class provides information on the various mental illnesses and helps loved ones learn important problems solving and coping skills, while also providing information on resources and support. All course materials are provided at no cost to participants. Many family members have described this as a "life changing" class, and many have gone on to become dedicated NAMI volunteers.

-Our Family Support Group is led by a trained NAMI facilitator and meets twice a month. The group is designed to assist family members or care givers of individuals living with a mental illness and strives to offer understanding, encouragement, and hope.

-Our NAMI Connections Group is led by a trained NAMI facilitator and meets twice a month. The meetings are a recovery support group for individuals living with a mental illness.

-Our Probate Court Support volunteers are dedicated to attending weekly probable cause hearings to offer support and resources to family members dealing with the crisis of having a loved one involved in the commitment process.

NAMI Mobile sponsors numerous annual community outreach events:

-Our NAMI Walk brings together hundreds of individuals in our community to raise awareness for and destigmatize mental illness.

-We host a Consumer Christmas Party for hundreds of adult consumers at a local community center. The party offers an afternoon of fun and celebration for individuals living with a serious mental illness, many of whom are living in group homes. We provide entertainment, refreshments, and small door prizes for the consumers, who tell us how much they look forward to this event every year.

-We host a Kids Christmas Party for children living in residential treatment facilities. We provide refreshments and small gifts for these children who might not otherwise be able to celebrate Christmas.

-We sponsor a **Pizza Party for children** receiving care at BayPointe Children's Hospital for Mental Health Awareness Week.

-We host a **Family Movie Day** at the Crescent Theater to promote Mental Health Awareness Month.

-We offer **Mental Health First Aid Classes** for both adults and children. These classes are open to the public, and the instructors teach individuals how to help someone who is experiencing a mental health crisis.

NAMI Mobile established the NAMI Care Fund in 2015 to address critical needs of local individuals living with a serious mental illness. In the last fiscal year, our Care Fund awarded over \$30,000 in assistance to 48 people. Examples of individuals served by the fund are:

-A woman was in desperate need of knee replacement surgery. However, her doctor would not consider the surgery, because her teeth were abscessed and infected. The woman had no dental insurance, so the NAMI Care Fund paid for her necessary dental extractions. She was then able to undergo the knee replacement surgery and is now able to walk without a walker or cane.

-A young woman was admitted to the emergency room with an abscessed tooth and a severely swollen face. She left the emergency room with antibiotics and went to a dentist. The dentist immediately referred her to an oral surgeon. The oral surgeon was able to get her in for emergency surgery due to NAMI Mobile making immediate arrangements for payment from the NAMI Care Fund. The oral surgeon said she could have died had it not been for the swift action of NAMI. This woman wrote to us saying, *"I would like to thank the NAMI Board of Directors and the NAMI Care Fund for helping me with emergency surgery on an infected tooth. I would have died if it had not been performed that day. Thanks to the quick actions of everyone, I am doing fine today. I am so grateful for the NAMI Care Fund."*

-A woman who was in severe pain from infected teeth received dental assistance thanks to the NAMI Care fund. She wrote to us saying, *"I went from being in pain all the time to being pain free. It would not have been possible without this program. Thank you!"*

-A young man living in an intermediate care facility needed assistance to pay for the removal of his braces, which he had been unable to maintain after his father passed away and he and his mother became homeless. If the braces were not removed, they would have caused severe dental problems. The NAMI Care Fund paid for an orthodontist to remove his braces.

-A high school student in AltaPointe's Transitional Age Residential Program needed basic supplies, uniforms, and shoes to start school. The NAMI Care fund helped this young man obtain these crucial items so he was prepared to attend school.

-A man living in an apartment complex lost all of his possessions in a fire. The NAMI Care Fund helped this man refurnish his home, providing him with a new winter coat, a set of pots and pans, dishes, utensils, as well as a TV and DVD player.

-A man who had worked hard to get a job and secure his own apartment was unable to pay a \$450 deposit to get the electricity turned on in his name. The NAMI Care Fund paid the deposit to Alabama Power and this man was then able to move into the apartment. Today he is still working and living on his own.