

## Letter from the Director:

Happy summer to each of you. It's nice to have the warm weather back again. If you haven't been by the office recently, go by, or better yet, stop in and look at the plantings in front of the building and the front signage. It is lovely thanks to all the volunteers that did the planting and now keep it watered and weeded.

I will keep my part of the newsletter short as there is lots of other news. I hope to see each of you at our Annual Gathering on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

*Helen Walkerly*

## Walk for Wellness a Huge Success

A special **Thank You** to everyone who came out to support our WALK for Wellness on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Secrest Arboretum. We were able to raise just over \$24,000 to help fund our support and education programs here at NAMI Wayne-Holmes.

Appreciation goes out to Dee and Mary Vaidya for serving as Honorary Chairpersons of the WALK this year.

We also want to thank all of our event sponsors: AloNovus Corp., Anonymous, BCI Buckeye Division, Buehler's Fresh Foods, Carrie Nettle, Thirty-One Independent Consultant, KOHL'S, NobleTek, PNC, RBB, RDM Equipment, Seaman Family Foundation, SpringHaven Counseling Center, Stutzman Lumber Ltd., The University of Akron Wayne College, Vaidya Family, and Wooster Glass Co Inc.

We had some exciting team participation this year as well. First place for bringing in the most money was the Country Girls (for the third year in a row), followed by the Buckeyes, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Team Fowler.

The top winner in the individual walker category went to Jill Cyrus with Connie Besancon and Brian Krebs following in second and third place, respectively.

We want to also thank staff, volunteers, Board members, and MOCANS who

assisted with set up and clean up for the WALK. We hope to see everyone next year!



The Counseling Center's WALK Team

## August 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, we will again come together at the First Presbyterian Church for our Board's annual meeting, dinner and award ceremony.

The speaker for the evening will be Dr. Fred Frese, a psychologist and advocate for persons challenged with a mental illness, especially for those with persons with schizophrenia, and families. He is also heavily involved in CIT International. The theme for the evening will be *"Dream the Impossible Dream: Recovery is Possible."*



Dr. Fred and Penny Frese

We will again be awarding the 2017 Ginger Handwerk MOCA House Award and the NAMI Community Service Award, as well as naming and awarding the 2017 Wayne-Holmes CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Officer of the Year at the dinner.

The Annual Gathering is always a special time when we can bring a community of mental health advocates, such as yourself, together to recognize and celebrate all that we do.

Stay connected with us: "Like" NAMI Wayne and Holmes Counties and MOCA House Program on Facebook!



## Family Support Group Update

The Family Support Group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the MOCA House. As a reminder, there will be no meeting in July due to the holiday.

See the MOCA Gazette Newsletter for an update on what's happening with the Family Support Group. This group is open to any adult family members who have a loved-one with a mental illness.

## NAMI Annual Membership Dues Increase

Last year at the national conference, the NAMI Board of Directors voted to increase membership dues as well as to add a new category "Household Membership." Here is the membership schedule of dues that are starting July 1<sup>st</sup>:

Regular Membership	\$40.00
Household Membership	\$60.00
Open Door Membership	\$5.00

A Household Membership consists of any individuals living at the same address. This could be a family in the "traditional" sense (spouses plus children) or even roommates. The NAMI Board chose "Household" to be more inclusive and to simplify the distribution of benefits. Keep in mind that this is not "Family" membership.

The Household Membership will only receive one copy of the NAMI *Advocate*, but all other member benefits are granted to each listed member. While each member is counted as a member of NAMI, the paid household membership counts as ONE when determining Affiliate vote weight for NAMI Elections.

The NAMI "Open Door" policy allows for reduced dues payment. Open Door members shall have all the rights and privileges of members who pay full dues.

If you have questions about when your membership payment is due, please call the office and Roz will provide that information to you.



