



NOVEMBER 2017 NEWS

NAMI Santa Fe has a New Location!

Due to the generosity of local donors, our organization has acquired its own meeting space! As of November 5th all NAMI Santa Fe meetings and support groups will be held at:

313 Camino Alire, Unit 307

Santa Fe, NM 87501

Our meeting space is located in room #307 in the building known as Dragonstone Studios. This is a wonderful space which will allow us to offer our programs in one centralized location, we will no longer have to hunt around town to find space for meetings, all of our materials will be accessible by all, and people looking for NAMI will always know where we are.

One of our best supporters and benefactors has offered to pay \$100 of our rent each month if we find a matching donor. We are currently seeking that donor or sustained monthly donations to assist us in paying our rent. If you are one of those people or know someone who might have the financial means to help us, please contact us by phone, email us, or send a check to NAMI Santa Fe at NAMI SANTA FE, P.O. Box 6423, Santa Fe, NM 87502.

One of our Family to Family attendees generously offered to pay for one of the eight tables that we purchased to furnish the room. If you would like to help in that regard, we would be so grateful. We are very excited about the opportunities that this space will provide us! Can't wait to see you there!

November 13th Information Meeting: What to expect when someone with Mental Illness is treated at the Behavioral Health Institute in Las Vegas



Guest Speaker
Dr. Gerald Russell

Date/Time
November, 13th 5:30-7 PM

New Location!
313 Camino Alire, #307
Santa Fe, NM 87501

When a friend or loved one is admitted to the BHI in Las Vegas, NM you may wonder what to expect throughout the duration of their treatment. On November 13th Dr. Gerald Russell will speak to the NAMI community about the institute, and answer any other questions you may have about the BHI.

Please note that this meeting will be held in our new meeting space, located in room 307, of the building known as Dragonstone Studios.

Losing Medicaid Coverage and Access to Specialized Services? BHSD CEO Wayne Lindstrom Responds to Concerns



Greetings-

An issue was presented to BHSD recently that suggested that those with SMI who present for treatment and who have traditionally had Medicare and Medicaid are now losing their Medicaid coverage

and are losing access to specialized BH services. The implications are that specialized BH services (IOP, ACT, PSR, CCSS, etc.) are not covered under Medicare and therefore would not be available to some of the most vulnerable individuals.

Federal rule prohibits the Expansion Population from being eligible for Medicare. If they are eligible for Part A, B, etc. of Medicare, they are not eligible for the Expansion. If they meet a nursing facility level of care, they could be eligible for a long-term care category and become a dual. But if they don't meet nursing facility level of care then the only other full coverage category available would be Parent/Caretaker which means they must be a parent and have very low household income.

It has been suggested that some of the individuals who are being dropped from Medicaid were not part of the expansion population but are prior eligibles for Medicaid through their SSDI. It would be helpful to identify any specific instances where this may have occurred.

Thank you- Wayne

Wayne W. Lindstrom, Ph.D.
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Update on Christus St. Vincent's Response to NAMI Members

As was previously reported, Tom Starke and Betty Sisneros Shover met with Mr. Patrick Carrier, CEO of Christus St. Vincent Medical Center in July. The purpose of this meeting was to inform Mr. Carrier about the poor outcomes and experiences that have been reported by people attempting to access mental health treatment for their loved ones at the Emergency Department (ED) and Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) over the summer.

At that meeting, Mr. Carrier agreed that the new BHU manager, once on board, would meet with NAMI members to hear their stories; which is what we had told our members we would request. He also shared with us that he was hiring a special consultant to evaluate behavioral health services at the hospital and recommend improvements.

Since that time, the consultant did interview NAMI as well as providers and other partnering organizations in Santa Fe. Also, since that time, Ms. Mary Magnusson did come on board as the new BHU Manager and Ms. Mary Bednar as the new ED Director. In September, we welcomed the new CSV leadership at our monthly Information Meeting, where several attendees were expecting to hear about behavioral health care improvements; particularly the evaluation of patients in the ED for admission to the BHU.

Unfortunately, we did not hear about improvements. At NAMI's October Hospital Committee meeting, when asked about meeting with our members, the Christus staff felt that because they weren't in their positions during the time that people reported having problems and because there weren't any results back from the special consultant, they didn't think the meeting would be productive.

Four months later, I'm sorry to report that we have still not heard from the Christus leadership about the results of the special consultant's evaluation or improvements thereof. Please know that we continue to meet with CSV monthly in good faith that our advocacy will improve the access to care for all those in need and that families will be acknowledged as partners in the process. We will also continue to insist on CSV meeting with our family members as we believe that exchange is in the best interest of our community.

VINE, the National Web-Based Offender Network

VINE www.Vinelink.com is a national web-based offender notification network. This free and confidential service provides concerned citizens information about a family or friend regarding booking, custody status, and criminal case information. The individual requesting the information must register on the online portal, VINELink. Registered users can access timely information about particular offenders 24-hours a day, over the phone, through the internet, or by email. This service is available in 48 states including New Mexico. This might be particularly valuable to families when their loved one goes missing, whether living in New Mexico or another state.

For more information: New Mexico VINE (877) 551-8463, <https://www.vinelink.com/#/StateVictim>

**This information is not a NAMI endorsement; just offered as an option for helping families and friends

Ongoing Programs

Family Support Group

Family Support Groups are Free, confidential groups of families supporting other families who live with mental health challenges.

Dates/Times

November 6th at 12:00 noon

November 27th at 6:00 PM

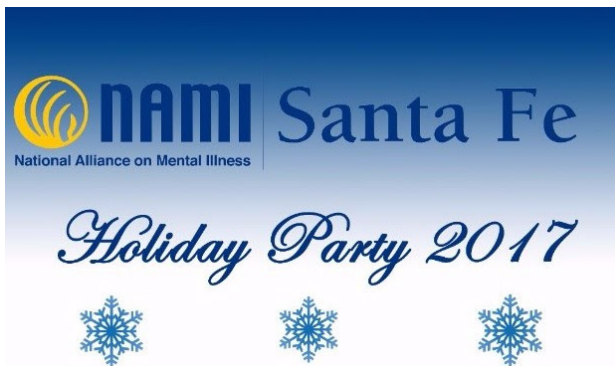
New Location!

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NAMI Family and Friends

Coming soon!

NAMI Family & Friends is a 4-hour seminar that informs and supports people who have loved ones with a mental health condition. Participants will learn about diagnoses, treatment, recovery, communication strategies, crisis preparation and NAMI resources. Seminar leaders have personal experience with mental health conditions in their families. For more information about this program or to arrange a seminar, please contact us: info@namisantafe.org, 505-395-6204.



Preparations Begin for Our Holiday Party!

We are now beginning preparations for our Holiday Party! If you would like to be a part of the planning committee or involved in any way, please contact Jessica at: jessica.namisantafe@gmail.com, 505-395-6204.

NAMI Santa Fe Has A Lot Of People To Thank This Month!

HUGE Thank you's to:

The Life Link & Presbyterian Urgent Care who have kept us going with free space for all of our programs.

KSFR who has been running PSA's for us to announce our programs.

Matthews Office Supply who gave us a discounted rate on seminar tables.

Louise Drisdale, David Linke, Betty Sisneros Shover, Jessica Shover, Evan Shover, and Linda Jaramillo for doing all the manual labor necessary to get us moved from our casita to our new Dragonstone space.

Also thank you to Cheryl Brown for the use of her casita for all these years, and for her continuous support of NAMI.

