



National Alliance on Mental Illness

May 15, 2009

Dear NAMI Leader,

We are pleased to provide your 2009 NAMI Elections packet. Contained within are documents critical to shaping NAMI's future. Please read all of these materials carefully.

Contents:

- 2009 NAMI Elections information sheet (white)
- Open Message from the NAMI Board of Directors (white)
- Meet the current NAMI National Board of Directors (white)
- Credential Form (yellow)
- Absentee Ballot (printed form)
- "Why Vote?", ideas for collecting member input for voting, and instructions for proper ballot completion (pink)
- 2009 Election issue of the *Advocate*
- Pre-addressed return envelope.

This year, you are asked to cast ballots for board candidates only – there are no proposed bylaws amendments or resolutions for your consideration this year. Please review the *Advocate* insert carefully and visit www.nami.org/voting for more information about the candidates and service on the NAMI National Board.

This year we have a voter challenge – and we hope you will help your state in winning \$150 "NAMI Bucks" good for purchasing brochures, videos and other resources from the NAMI Store. We'll award two prizes: one to the State that has the greatest increase in numbers of affiliates voting, and one to the State that has the greatest percentage of affiliates voting. So send in your credential forms and/or absentee ballot, help decide NAMI's future *and* win some great NAMI resources at the same time!

Each year we strive to make NAMI's election process clearer and more inclusive. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via the NAMI National office or at Governance@nami.org or MemberServices@nami.org or by calling 703-524-7600.

Thank you for all you do for NAMI – *and don't forget to vote!*

Sincerely,

Anand Pandya, M.D.
NAMI National Board
President

Sheila Amdur
NAMI National Board
2009 Election Chair