

Overview

Four hundred and six NAMI Connection participants from sixteen states responded to the survey. The data was collected during March and April 2008.

Participant Characteristics

The mean age of the respondents was 45 with a range from 16 to 81 and a standard deviation of 12. Forty-three percent were male, 56% female and 0.7% transgender. Eighty-six percent were White, 7.4% were African American or Black, 3.2% were Native American, 2% were Asian, and 3.9% selected other.

Diagnosis: Participants could select as many diagnostic categories as they wanted, so the percentages in the table below will not add to 100%. Bipolar disorder (45%) and major depression (36%) were the most frequently selected diagnostic categories.

Diagnosis	Percentage
Schizophrenia/Schizoaffective	27
Bipolar Disorder	45
Major Depression	36
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	14
Anxiety Disorder	29
Borderline Personality Disorder	10
Substance Abuse Disorder	6
Other	16.7
Unsure	3.2

Attendance

Twenty-two percent of the respondents had been to only one (12%) or two (10%) NAMI Connection meetings. Twenty-eight percent had been to 3 to 10 meetings and 50% of the sample had been to more than 10 meetings.

Referral Source

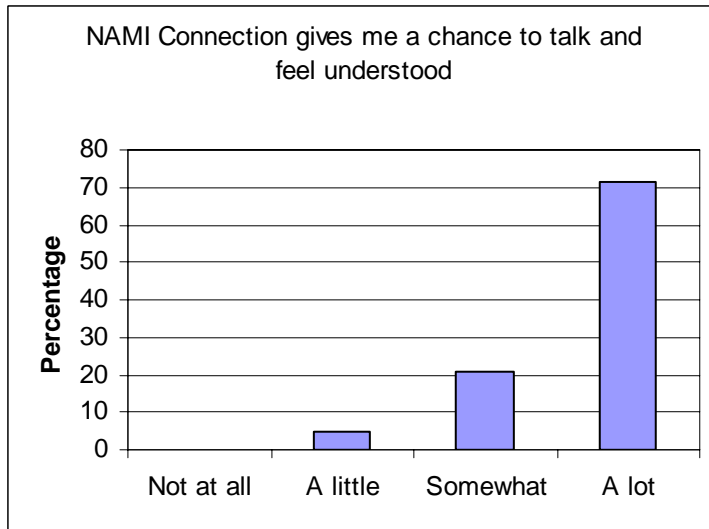
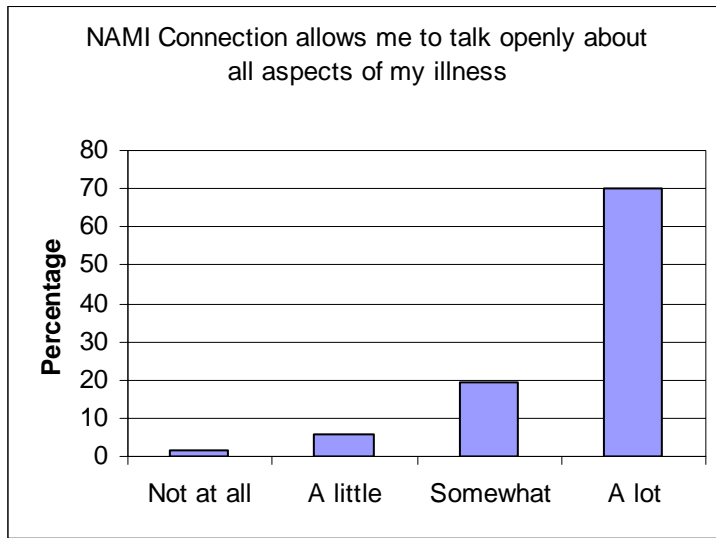
Participants had been referred to NAMI primarily by a family member, friend, NAMI member, NAMI publication or other.

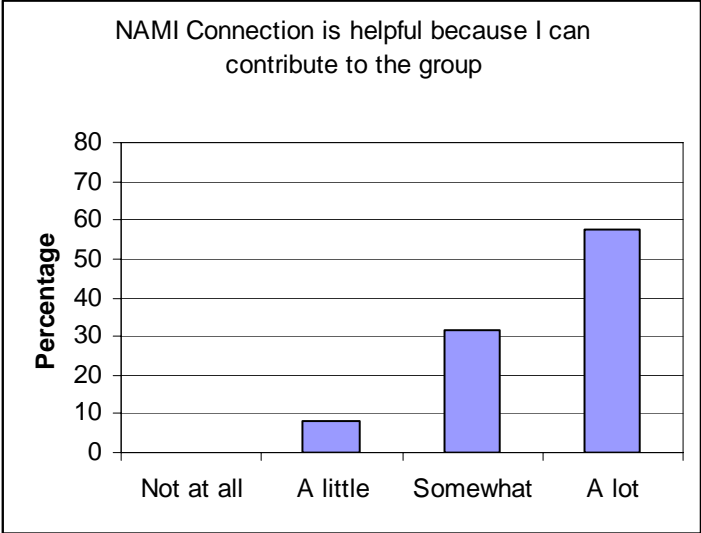
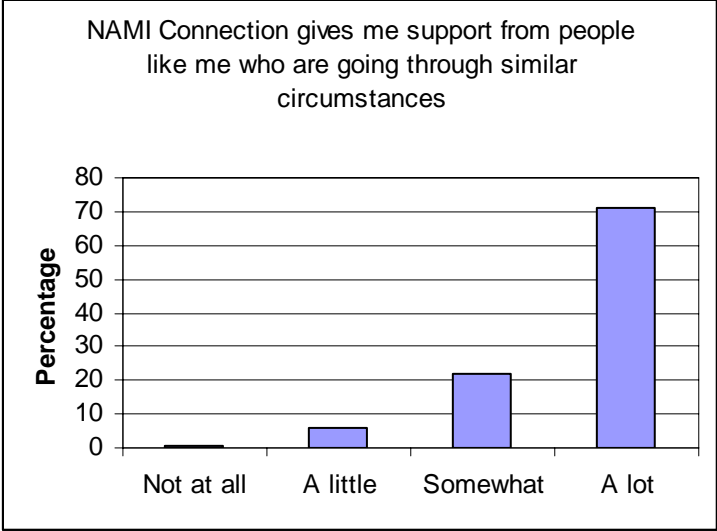
Source	Percentage
Family Member or Friend	32
NAMI Member or Publication	27
NAMI Web Site	9
Advertising	10
Provider	11
Other	21

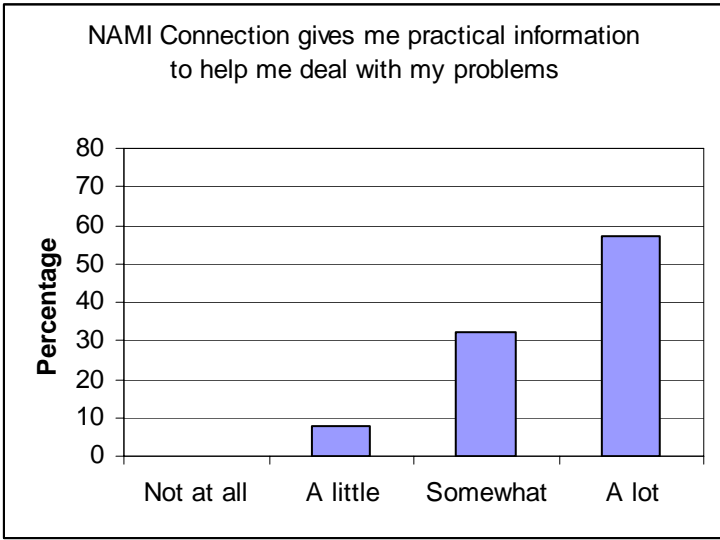
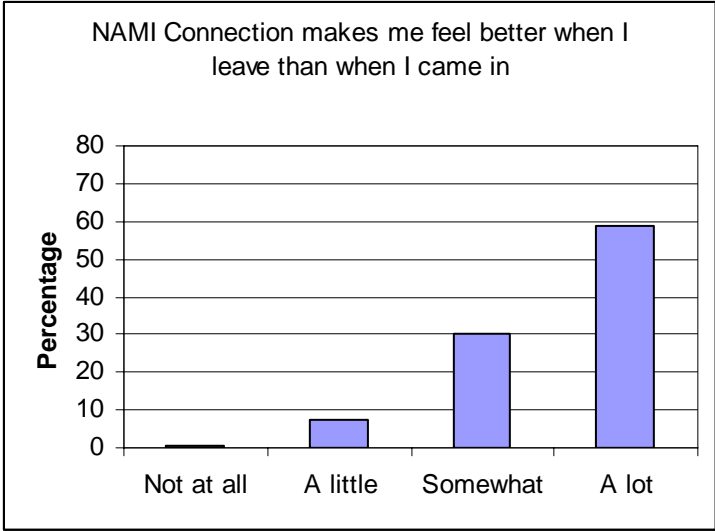
Satisfaction with NAMI Connection

An overwhelming majority of participants indicated that they found the program very helpful across a number of domains. Greater than 90% of the people in the program indicated that they found NAMI Connection helpful because they could contribute to the group and talk openly about all aspects of their illness. More than 93 percent of participants felt that the program provided a chance to talk and feel understood. In particular, they felt supported by people who are going through similar circumstances. Compared to when they arrive, 92% of people indicated that they feel better when they leave a NAMI Connection meeting and 88% of people said that they feel that NAMI Connection has produced positive changes in their recovery. In addition, 92% of NAMI Connection participants said that the program provided them with practical information to help deal with their problems. Eighty-five percent indicated that NAMI Connection gave them a better understanding of the resources available in their community and NAMI Connection's group discussions about medications have helped 65% of people in making decisions about their treatment.

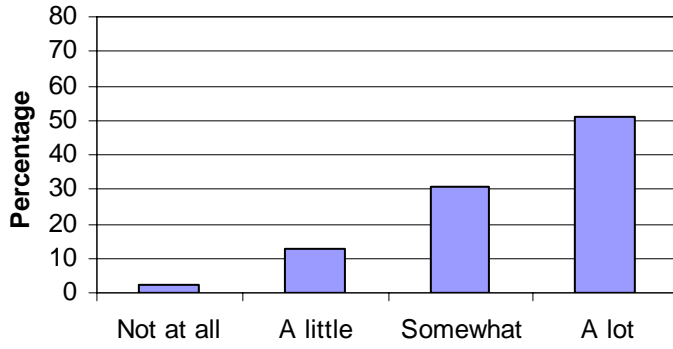
Responses to Individual Satisfaction Items







NAMI Connection gives me a better understanding of the resources available in my community



NAMI Connection's group discussions about medications have helped me make decisions about my treatment

