**NAMI DeKalb Board Meeting**

**March 15, 2022**

**Attendance:** Shardea Ages, Carla Catalon-Scott, Eric Roberts, David Kendrick, Jim Wright, Rachel Barber, Dave Saunders, Becky Lough, Dianna Hiltman, Jade Royale-Brown, Renee Dryfoos

Guest: Steve Parris

**Financial Report:** Shardea provided a Budget Overview with budget assumptions for this year showing an overall positive bottom line.

**Minutes Approval:** Minutes from the February Board Meeting were approved.

**Minority Mental Health Fair:** We continue to plan to hold the event this year.

**Old Business:**

New NAMI Leadership course is upcoming.

Website update: Dianne and Jade G have been working on getting the website updated and functional.

**New Business:**

Community Events: Dianne noted that she was contacted by a person who is interested in holding a musical event Labor Day weekend at Waller’s Coffee Shop. It would be a fundraiser for NAMI DeKalb. We will further explore this opportunity

**Support Groups:**

Family - Report from Becky:

The current Family-to-Family class is going well, with about 12 regular attendees. Next class will likely start at the end of April. We are always on the lookout for additional teachers.

Our Family Support Groups are continuing well with good attendance and a devoted group of facilitators. We continue to have new family members join in to seek the information, empathy and support that they need.

We will not think about another Basics class until later this year.

Our two native Spanish speaking teachers plan to offer a shortened family course (4 hours) before embarking on the full Family-to-Family class. We are hoping that this will blossom into regular classes of both kinds at the outset.

Peer Report from Eric and Dave:

Peer support groups are going well. Looking at adding a second group for the LBGTQ+ community. Training for peer-to-peer trainers will occur this summer.

Two new connections facilitators have been trained.

Jade voiced concern about individuals in Connections groups sharing information that they should not be sharing. Dianne noted that the facilitators need to be supported to set the guidelines in the groups to assure that the content shared is appropriate. Dianne suggested that a facilitators meeting be held quarterly to review and support appropriate process.

**Advocacy Committee Report:**

Carla reported that the advocacy committee has developed a plan to focus on a spiritual integration project in which the committee plans to help bridge the gap between their religious congregations and resources through NAMI and other community resources.

**Vice President Report:** David sought input on areas we need volunteers to assist the Board. He suggested use of the website Volunteer Match to find volunteers. Dianne recommended that we keep a link on the website as well. David indicated he would manage volunteer interests and connect up with volunteer needs.

Homefront- David noted he is in process of finalizing a Homefront class that he hopes to start up in late spring.

**President Report:**

By-laws – Dianne plans to have the by-law update completed this weekend so that the by-laws will be available for the membership to review and approve.

Board member nominations –Carla Carlton-Scott, David Jordan for CSB Liaison

Dianne recommended that the Board focus on increasing membership over the next year.

CIT trainings –Dianne notes that if there are others who would be interested in providing the family experience presentation she would be happy to do it with someone. Jade notes she is very interested in doing CIT family presentations.