

Dhanu Sannesy

Education Bachelors degree with Psychology as Major Subject
Worked at IBM as Help Desk Analyst, Information Technology
Senior Master Gardener at Cornell Co-operative Extension, worked as landscape designer at nurseries

1992 to present Member NAMI-AMICO, Inc. (Orange County affiliate);
New name as of 2016 is NAMI Orange County, NY referred to as NAMI Orange

1993 Fund-raising activities for NAMI-AMICO, Inc

2010-2015 Vice President of NAMI-AMICO, Inc.
(ongoing) Attends Educational and Legislative NAMI-NYS Conferences
Arranges speakers for Educational meetings

2013 Mental Health Association in Orange County, Inc.'s "Family Support Volunteer of the Year" award
Attended Mental Health First Aid Training
NAMI Family-to-Family course instructor training at NAMI-NYS

2013 to present Heads "Families Helping Families" committee helping families of loved ones with serous mental health conditions
(ongoing) at Orange Regional Medical Center Behavioral Health Unit (now Garnet Health Medical Center)
Coordinates and arranges guest speakers for NAMI Orange meetings
Responds to calls from families in need of services and support via NAMI Orange Helpline/NAMI Orange email
Joined American Red Cross

2014 Attended National NAMI conference in Washington, D.C
Started NAMI Family Support Group
Created NAMI Orange website

2014 to present *NAMI Family to Family education to families*
(ongoing) Member of Orange County Mental Health Sub-Committee

2015 *NAMI Family to Family* Instructor (Summer and Fall 12 week courses)
Recruited 4 NAMI Orange members for NAMI Family Support training through NAMI-NYS.
Attended workshops: Cognitive Behavioral Workshop; Suicide Prevention; NARCAN training,
Understanding Trauma
Coordinated and Participated in Outreach Activities:
outreach at Stewart Airport's Y2Kids from A to Z
Newburgh Illuminated
BOCES Job Fair
SUNY Orange Health Fairs at Middletown and Newburgh campuses
Great American Weekend, Goshen
Health Fair at Touro College, Middletown
Middletown's 3rd Annual Community Health Fair
Senior EXPO, Middletown

2015 to present Mental Health First Aid training to Youth & Adults
(ongoing) Member of Orange County Medical Reserve Corp.
Joined Goshen Chamber of Commerce
Schedules *In Our Own Voice* presentations throughout Orange County
Initiated and facilitates monthly NAMI Family Support group meetings in Goshen, NY.
Orange County Department of Mental Health "Welcome Orange" Planning Committee
Orange County Criminal Justice Advisory Committee
Orange County Department of Mental Health Community Service Board Sub-Committee
Member of Incident Review Committee at Mid-Hudson Forensic Psychiatric Center
Hospital (2x/month)
Member of Incident Review Committee meetings at Garnet Health Medical Center
Board of Visitors at Mid Hudson Forensic Psychiatric Center checking the quality of care of the patients
Member of NYS Association of Board of visitors
Recruits speakers for education meetings
Provides updated mental health materials to Orange County libraries
CIT committee in Orange County
Joint Membership of Health and Community Agencies (JMHCA)

2016 to present (ongoing) President of NAMI Orange affiliate
 2016 NAMI Orange email Helpline/Correspondence
 Completed NAMI National Reaffiliation process
NAMI Family to Family Instructor (Fall 12 week course)
 Serves on NAMI-NYS Advisory Board
 Co-Chairs Program, Reaffiliation & Membership committees at NAMI-NYS
 Member of NAMI-NYS Educational Committee, Walks, Strategic Planning & Zero Suicide Committees
 Attended National NAMI conference in Denver, Colorado
 Lead presenter of Ending the Silence
 Outreaches: Newburgh Illuminated, Thrall Park Health Fair,
 NAMI Walks Orange County, NY team captain (Sept, 2016)
 NAMI Ending the Silence presenter for School districts
 NAMI Basics course Instructor
 OMH SSI & SSDI Training
 Member of Regional Advisory Council, Office of Mental Health
 Member of Health Link NY
 NYS Integrated Block Grants committee
 Joined Orange County Trauma Institute - attends trauma related trainings regularly
 2016 NAMI Orange Appreciation Award

2017 2nd Vice President of NAMI-NYS
 Received Outstanding Small Affiliate of Year Award at NAMI-NYS Conference
 Attended CIT International Conference 2017 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida (Aug 2017)
 Attended CIT training for Small town Police Departments
 Stigma presentation to Mid Hudson Forensic Psychiatric Center
 Volunteers as consultant to families at Forensic Hospital helping them understand mental health issues & provide resources available in NYS
 Participates in CIT (Crisis Intervention Trainings) as family member's perspective.
 Participates at NYS Office of Mental Health Regional Advisory Council meetings
 Started a new Family Support Group at Orange Regional Medical Center for families who have their loved ones with serious mh conditions
 Received Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training & started teaching the course in person & virtual
 Attended Vet 2 Vet training for military families
 Joined NYS Multicultural Competency Committee
 Attended 4 days NAMI National Convention in Washington DC

2018 to present (ongoing) Joined Honor Board of Directors - Shelter for Homeless
 Trained as Instructor for Borderline Personality Disorder, helping families.
 Member of Orange County Community Service Board
 Started teaching YMHA on an ongoing basis to school districts

2018 Presentation about mental health to religious groups, Girl Scouts, Rotary, police academy, schools, and many other community agencies
 Presentation on Stigma towards mental health conditions for service members - in White Plains
 Attended 4 days NAMI National Convention in New Orleans
 Attended 2 days Suicide Prevention Training
 Attended Mental Health Inequity Conference in Albany - NYS Psychiatric Association
 Attended CIT International (Crisis Intervention Team) Convention in Kansas City -Aug 14-17 th
 Attended Mental Health Association NYS Conference on Oct 16th

2019 Cultural Competency presentation to Touro College medical students & nursing students

2020 Started more support groups for peers & families, educational courses & presentations

2021 Trained on new platform from National Council for Mental Well being plus 2nd edition

2022 Trained as Adult Mental Health First Aid instructor blended virtual & in person
 Adult MHFA 2nd Edition (2020) In-person Curriculum Updates for Instructors Trained in 2nd Edition (2020)
 01/24/22 - 01/26/22 Hosted by NYS Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors MHFA Adult Instructor Training Remote
 Youth MHFA 2nd Edition (2020) In-person Curriculum Updates for Instructors Trained in 2nd Edition (2020)
 Onboarding to MHFA Connect for Existing Instructors and Coordinators
 Teaching Blended Youth MHFA
 Received the NYPRAS Board of Directors Muriel Shephard Partners with Families Award
 Participated in NAMI-NYS fund-raising gala/fashion show
 Provided virtual Youth Mental Health First Aid training to all Catskill Region library staff members on regular basis
 Broward school districts in Florida State
 Port Jervis school district in Orange County, NY approximately 250 school staff
 General public & Faith community leaders
 Adult Mental Health First Aid training to all Massachusetts Legal Aid Society including attorneys & prosecutors
 Adult MHFA to Newburgh Ministry & family members

2022 to present Monitors NAMI Family Support Group weekly and available to facilitate

2023 Trained as Mental Health First Aid instructor for Public Safety officers, EMS & Fire Fighters, Military, College Campuses
 & Mental Health First Aid for Older Adults
 Provides Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid training on an ongoing basis to many agencies in Orange, Rockland and Putnam Counties in NY
 Continues website updates/maintenance with Word Press
 Trained in NAMI Provider Education & NAMI SMARTS
 Being trained as NAMI Basics State Trainer on April 19 & 20