

September 19, 2006

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**



Contact:

Bettie Reinhardt  
Executive Director  
NAMI San Diego  
(619) 584-5567

[exudir@namisandiego.org](mailto:exudir@namisandiego.org)

**NAMI San Diego honors local recovery champions at dinner on Sept 29, 2006**

SAN DIEGO – The theme is “Recovery in Action,” the awards are inspirational and the event promises to be an evening full of health, hope and happiness.

Tickets are on sale now for the first annual Inspiration Awards presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), San Diego Affiliate. The award winners represent excellence in facilitating recovery in people with mental illness in San Diego.

“Recovery from the disease of mental illness is a very real likelihood, when the disease is properly treated,” said Bettie Reinhardt, Executive Director, NAMI San Diego. “But that fact is not widely understood by the public. We created the Inspiration Awards to raise public awareness of recovery by recognizing the best practices in recovery support among individuals and organizations in San Diego.”

The six Recovery award categories that will be recognized are:

- **Leader**
- **Advocate**
- **Facilitator**
- **Program**
- **Researcher**
- **Education**

The award dinner will be a celebration of recovery with the program focusing on compelling stories of successfully living with mental illness. It will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Mission Valley on Sept. 29, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For information and tickets, call James Starek at NAMI at (619) 584-5864 or register online at [www.namisandiego.org](http://www.namisandiego.org)

###

NAMI San Diego is San Diego’s voice on mental illness. It is a nonprofit organization founded in 1978 to provide education, support services, and advocacy to improve the lives of everyone affected by mental illnesses. NAMI is widely recognized for its efforts to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and for heightening awareness about the potential for recovery from mental illness. NAMI San Diego’s toll free information and referral number is (800) 523-5933.