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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Filmmaker Katie Cadigan and Councilman Todd Gloria to be featured at upcoming
NAMI San Diego awards dinner**

SAN DIEGO—The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI San Diego) will feature filmmaker Katie Cadigan as the keynote speaker at their annual Inspirational Awards dinner on October 8, 2010.

Katie Cadigan—the NAMI San Diego 2010 Inspirational Person of the Year—is an independent documentary filmmaker and the owner of the imageReal Pictures production company, which she established in 1997. She has produced and directed documentaries for PSB, HBO, and cable networks such as AMC, A&E, and the History Channel, winning many awards for outstanding documentary and other honors.

Katie spent several years teaching film and video production courses for graduate and undergraduate students in the Communication Department at Stanford, where she received her master's degree in documentary film.

Most recently, Katie produced and directed a documentary entitled *When Medicine Got It Wrong*, about how parents refused blame for causing schizophrenia and launched a grassroots movement to overturn psychiatric understanding of the disease.

In addition to Katie's award, there will be a number of other awards given to people and organizations who have greatly contributed to the mental health community. Councilman Todd Gloria will emcee the 7th annual Inspirational Awards dinner.

Todd is a District 3 Councilman and a third-generation resident of the area where NAMI San Diego is headquartered. Among his former positions, he has worked for the County's Health and Human Services agency and his commitment to the community is strong.

“We are so fortunate to have Katie as our keynote speaker and Todd returning as our emcee this year,” said NAMI San Diego Executive Director Shannon Jaccard. “Every year the dinner gets more and more exciting and we're hoping for a wonderful turnout for 2010.”

NAMI is a non-profit organization that provides education, support services and advocacy to improve the lives of everyone affected by mental illnesses, which, really, is all of us in one way or another. The annual Inspiration Awards dinner is one of their largest fundraisers and proceeds from it enable NAMI San Diego to continue doing the important work it does.

The dinner will be held at the Catamaran Resort in Mission Beach on Friday, Oct. 8. Tickets are on-sale now and can be purchased by calling the NAMI office at (800) 523-5933 or online at www.namisandiego.org.

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