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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact:  
Annie Dunlop  
Development and Events Manager  
(619) 584-5574  
anniedunlop@namisd.org

**Free NAMI meeting on June 2 features two special programs on mental health**

SAN DIEGO—On Thursday, June 2, 2011, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI San Diego) will be holding their free monthly Education and Advocacy meeting featuring two special programs.

To start off, the PERT (Psychiatric Emergency Response Team) Advisory Board will be introducing the Behavioral Health Emergency Response Form (ERP). They will also provide information and helpful tips when the need to call law enforcement or 911 in a behavioral health related crisis occurs. A panel of experts including consumers, family members, police officers, and police dispatchers will offer their insight and guidance in these situations. Law Enforcement is dedicated to handling these emergencies in a safe and effective manner and we all play a role in the resolution of these calls. Please attend this meeting to learn how you can help make a positive difference if you ever need to call law enforcement in the future and learn about making your own ERP.

There was so much interest generated at our April meeting regarding volunteer and career opportunities within the Public Mental Health Field, that the Education Department at NAMI will be sponsoring a follow-up program. A panel discussion will be held, including Liz Miles MPH, MSW from San Diego County Mental Health Services and Dr. Trey Boyle, Ph. D. from Community Research Foundation, to further discuss opportunities within the Public Mental Health Field. At the conclusion of their presentation, both speakers will answer any questions you may have.

NAMI is a non-profit organization that provides education, support services and advocacy to improve the lives of everyone affected by mental illnesses. They hold monthly Education and Advocacy meetings at no charge to the public that feature expert speakers on timely topics.

The meeting on June 2 starts at 6:30 pm and will be held at the University Christian Church Friendship Hall at 3900 Cleveland Ave in San Diego (across from the Post Office). Please note that there will be no meeting held in the month of July, but NAMI's Education and Advocacy meetings—as well as the Ask the Doctors portion of the presentation—will return in August.

Mark your calendar and if you need more information, contact NAMI San Diego at (800) 523-5933. Or visit [www.namisandiego.org](http://www.namisandiego.org)

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