



San Luis Obispo County

Press Release

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The Andrew Holland Foundation and the National Alliance on Mental Illness San Luis Obispo (NAMI SLO) Announce Merger

San Luis Obispo, CA. In order to better serve those with serious mental illness (SMI) in San Luis Obispo County, the boards of the Andrew Holland Foundation and NAMI San Luis Obispo announce they have merged the two organizations, effective January 1, 2022. Programs and services offered by both organizations will continue under NAMI SLO.

Incoming NAMI board president Aurora William states, "By working together as one organization we are able to increase our resources and be more efficient as we advocate and provide support to those with mental illness and their loved ones. We are excited to be able to better serve San Luis Obispo County."

The newly merged organization will continue to advocate for the over 11,000 SLO County residents with serious mental illness and serve and support their loved ones through NAMI support groups and classes. The merger will create the Andrew Holland Advocacy Committee to draw attention to gaps in service within our county.

NAMI will continue the Andrew Holland Foundation's partnership with the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Office, in sponsoring Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) training classes for law enforcement, as a tangible way to show support for the evidence-based training. CIT gives law enforcement officers, and other first responders, additional tools to effectively do their job more safely for all. CIT training helps to reduce arrests of people with mental illness while simultaneously increasing the likelihood that those individuals will receive mental health services.

About NAMI SLO

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization in the country, dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. NAMI is dedicated to providing support, advocacy, and educational resources for those with a mental illness, along with their family, friends and loved ones.

NAMI SLOCO is a 501 (c) (3) charitable, non-profit, tax-exempt organization of consumers as well as families, and friends of people with severe mental illnesses. Members provide educational and emotional support for each other and advocate for better understanding, treatment and care of people

with mental illness. Extensive training is provided by NAMI for those members leading support groups and classes. NAMI SLOCO is affiliated with NAMI California and NAMI National. Additional information on NAMI SLO can be found at NAMISLO.org.

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