

NAMI - New River Valley  
BYLAWS  
EFFECTIVE 07/01/2000

ARTICLE I... NAME/JURISDICTION

Section 1 ... NAME

The name of this organization shall be NAMI - New River Valley, formally known as New River Valley Alliance for the Mentally Ill. This organization is affiliated with NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) and NAMI Virginia. NAMI – New River Valley acknowledges that NAMI controls the use of the name, acronym and logo of NAMI and that our use of the logo and name shall be in accordance with the NAMI policy. Upon termination of affiliation with NAMI, the uses of these names, acronyms and logo by NAMI – New River Valley shall cease.

Section 2 ... JURISDICTION

The organizational jurisdiction shall be the counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski and the City of Radford in the Commonwealth of Virginia (Region II in NAMI) but members may reside outside of this area..

ARTICLE II ... PURPOSE

This organization adheres to the mission of NAMI which is to improve the quality of life for people with mental illness/brain disorder through:

- (a) Support groups
- (b) Education
- (c) Advocacy
- (d) Research
- (e) Promotion of community support treatment and rehabilitative services.

ARTICLE III ... NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION LAW

Wherever not otherwise provided for in the bylaws, the organization shall be subject to the procedures established in the not-for-profit corporation law of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

ARTICLE IV ... NONDISCRIMINATION

The organization shall not discriminate against any person or group of people on the basis of race, disability, creed, gender, religion, age or sexual orientation in its requirements for membership, its policies or actions.

ARTICLE V ... MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1 ... FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the membership shall be held on the second Thursday of each month unless the membership of NAMI – New River Valley shall determine otherwise. No less than eight (8) such meetings will be held in any one (1) fiscal year.

## Section 2 ... SPECIAL MEETINGS

A special meeting of the membership may be called by the President of NAMI – New River Valley or upon a written request to the President by five (5) or more voting members. The entire voting membership of this organization must be contacted by phone or mail at least five (5) days in advance of a special meeting.

## Section 3 ... NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES IN THE MEETING TIME OR PLACE

Members shall be notified at least five (5) days in advance of any change in the meeting time or place, notwithstanding inclement weather.

## Section 4 ... ANNUAL MEETING

The membership meeting in May shall be designated as the annual meeting for the election of officers.

## ARTICLE VI ... PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

A current edition of Robert's Rules or Order shall govern the conduct of business in all cases they are applicable and not in conflict with these Bylaws.

## ARTICLE VII ... MEMBERSHIP

### Section 1 ... CONTROL

Control of this organization shall rest with the voting membership. Any action of the Officers shall be subject to review by the membership on request of any member at a regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose. An action of the Board of Directors (Officers) may be altered or rescinded by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the membership at a special meeting.

### Section 2 ... VOTING MEMBERS

Voting members shall consist of all consumers of mental health and their families and friends, including professionals, past and present, that are in good standing with NAMI – New River Valley. A member is in good standing upon payment of dues or waiver thereof for the current fiscal year. A member who is not in good standing may not hold office, nor shall their vote be counted in any organizational questions or elections. Inactive members for more than one year may be dropped from the membership rolls.

## ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Section 1 ... TERM OF OFFICE

The regular term of office shall be for one (1) year, continuing until the election of new officers at the annual meeting.

### Section 2 ... UNEXPIRED TERMS OF OFFICE

#### (a) VACANCIES

All vacancies in elected positions, except that of the President, shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointees of the Board of Directors.

#### (b) REPLACEMENT

The Board of Directors may replace any officer who has failed to attend three (3) successive meetings upon reasonable notice to the officer prior to such replacement.

### Section 3 ... NOMINATING COMMITTEE

There shall be a nominating committee composed of three (3) members, of which at least one (1) shall be the President or a past President appointed by the Board of Directors in April. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of candidates for election as officers and shall secure the consent of any nominees to serve if elected. Nominations shall be permitted from the floor at the annual meeting in May. All nominees, whether nominated by the committee or from the floor, shall be voting members in good standing, who have given their consent to be nominated and who have attended at least six (6) meetings during the previous year.

### Section 4 ... OFFICERS

#### (a) PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership unless a reasonable notice is given to the Vice President to preside in his/her absence. The President shall act as Executive Officer of this organization and in general perform the duties usually associated with the office of President.

#### (b) VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence. The Vice-President shall undertake such other responsibilities as the President shall assign.

#### (c) SECRETARY

The Secretary shall handle the correspondence of this organization and maintain a record of the proceedings of all meetings of the membership. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all records of the organization other than the financial records. The Secretary shall maintain an up-to-date membership roster and attendance record.

#### (d) TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive all revenues of this organization and shall have the responsibility of maintaining a complete and accurate account of all funds received and disbursed. The Treasurer shall present an annual report to the membership at the February meeting after the close of the fiscal year listing all receipts and disbursements by budget categories. The Treasurer shall prepare and submit an annual budget to the Board of Directors for approval of the membership.

## ARTICLE IX ... BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Section 1 ... MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall consist of four (4) elected officers. Three (3) of the members shall constitute a quorum. All actions shall require a majority of the members present.

### Section 2 ... POWERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have all the powers of the membership between meetings. The minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors shall be submitted to the membership at its next regular meeting.

Section 3 ... COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors may create special committees as needed. A chairperson shall be appointed by the President and members may volunteer to assist the chairperson on such committees.

ARTICLE X ... DUES

Section 1 ... AMOUNT

Members shall pay yearly dues as established by the Board of Directors and voted upon by the membership at its next regular meeting

Section 2 ... WAIVER OF DUES

The Board of Directors may waive dues when deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XI ... FISCAL YEAR

This organization shall have a fiscal year beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31. Dues are payable on April 1 and become delinquent after June 30. Any new members joining after January 31 shall be considered as having paid in full through March 31 of the calendar year.

ARTICLE XII ... DISSOLUTION

In the event that this organization is dissolved, the Board of Directors shall liquidate our physical assets in the manner that in their sole discretion is in the best interest of this organization and its membership. The total of our assets is then to be donated in our name to NAMI Virginia. If for any reason this organization is non-existent the funds shall be directed by the Board of Directors to NAMI and if that organization is non-existent as well the Board of Directors is empowered to donate these assets to another not-for-profit organization that in their sole opinion, most closely supports our organization, causes and objectives.

ARTICLE XIII ... AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Any proposed amendment or revision of these bylaws along with the date it is to be voted upon, shall be presented to the membership. A two-third (2/3) vote of the members in good standing that are present is required for ratification.