

Many recent reports, including the *Surgeon General's Report on Cultural, Race and Ethnicity* and the Institute of Medicine's report, *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*, point to the great disparities of minority mental health in this country and the resulting toll on our society. In response to this national crisis, NAMI created its Multicultural Action Center. This Center works to focus attention on system reform to ensure access to culturally competent services and treatment for *all* Americans and particularly to help and support families and consumers of diverse backgrounds who are affected by serious mental illness.

- **Educational resources**

We have an extensive number of fact sheets and resources that target African American, Latino, Asian American/ Pacific Islander, American Indian and other traditionally underserved communities. *These materials are available in electronic formats that make it easy to add information specific to your NAMI office.

- **Web site: www.nami.org/multicultural**

The Multicultural Action Center's section on the NAMI website contains many of our resources, information on multicultural issues, back issues of our newsletter and *Avanzamos*, links to partner organizations, and more.

- **Outreach planning**

For both those embarking on outreach efforts and outreach veterans, the Multicultural Action Center is available for collaboration in the planning stage and offers assistance throughout your outreach initiatives.

- **Cultural competence presentations and trainings**

The Center's staff is available to provide trainings tailored specifically to the needs.

- **Local activities bank**

A collection of outreach materials, newsletters, meeting minutes and more from affiliates engaged in outreach initiatives and tips on how to duplicate them.

- **Story and speakers bank**

We are happy to help provide articles for your local newsletter and connect you with speakers for your events.

- **"How to Do Outreach" and other themed teleconferences**

Teleconferences provide step by step discussions of what works and highlights of successful NAMI efforts.

- **Leadership opportunities for NAMI diverse leaders**

Along with our diverse leaders/advisory groups, we provide scholarships for major NAMI events including the annual NAMI Convention, Leadership Institutes, program trainings, and more.

For more information contact us at:

MACenter@nami.org, call 703-524-7600 or toll free at 1-800-950-NAMI (6264)