

Freedom from Stigma CAMPAIGN

Bulletin
June 2004



Lady Liberty presides over 2004 Walk Kickoff Ceremony as Kathleen Considine introduces 2004 Family Team Chair Chris Bosco and Founding Family Team Chair Ken Eshelman.



2004 NAMI NJ Conference Battle Cry for *"Freedom from Stigma"*

In her keynote address, "Reflections on Recovery and Stigma," Suzanne Vogel-Scibilia, M.D., psychiatrist and NAMI National Board Member, captivated the audience telling of her experiences battling bipolar disorder and stigma, while earning a medical degree and raising a family. She now heads an independent mental health clinic and consults at the National Institute of Mental Health.

Plenary speaker Robin Cunningham, NAMI IOOV Trainer, speaking on "Stigma Then and Now," saluted the willingness of consumers to share their experiences coping with mental illness, their hopes and dreams, and successes through the consumer recovery education program, *In Our Own Voice: Living with Mental Illness*

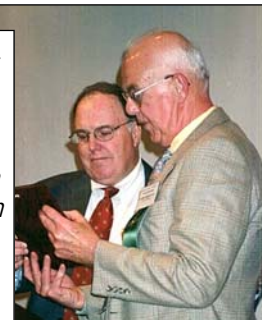
Peabody Award winner, Bill Lichtenstein, NY print/broadcast journalist and producer of the public radio program, "The Infinite Mind," showed clips from his documentary, "Using the Media to Fight Stigma: West 47th Street." As President of Lichtenstein Creative Media, Bill produces programs that show people can – and do – recover from serious mental illness and attributes creative self-expression as critical to his own recovery from manic depression.

Kicking off the 2004 NAMI NJ Walk for *"Freedom from Stigma,"* Kathleen Considine, Walk Coordinator, introduced the 2004 Family Team Chair, Chris Bosco, who last year "grew" a 63-person team soliciting walkers, donations, press coverage, a Mayoral Proclamation, as well as designing and tie-dying T-shirts for his 2003 team, "Team Hope." The Conference concluded with the premiere of the eagerly-awaited 2003 Walk Video.

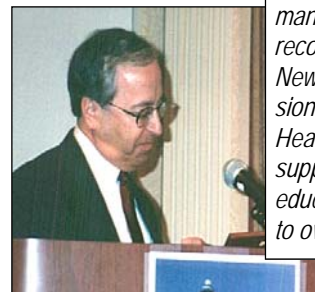


Debra L. Wentz and Henry Acosta accept award for the New Jersey Mental Health Institute recognized for their campaign reaching out to NJ's Hispanic community.

New Jersey Psychiatric Association Past President James O'Neil, M.D. accepts award from Mark Perrin, M.D. in recognition of the NJPA statewide "Stop the Stigma Campaign."



Director Alan Kaufman accepts award recognizing the New Jersey Division of Mental Health Services support for public education initiatives to overcome stigma.



NAMI NJ "Freedom from Stigma" Awards presented to leaders



Introducing an unprecedented year-long "Freedom from Stigma" Campaign at the NAMI NJ 2004 Awards Ceremony, Executive Director Sylvia Axelrod, and President Mark Perrin, M.D. praised the valuable contributions of community leaders and organizations in fighting stigma .



Robin Cunningham, Drew Horn and Jay Yudof are recognized for their personal efforts and creative contributions in working to overcome the stigma associated with mental illness, providing opportunities for growth and enrichment and helping consumers build self esteem.



Elaine Goodman recognized for her work in law enforcement education and overcoming stigma in the handling of people with mental illness in crises.



Reporters Carolyn Feibel and Tom Davis receive "Freedom from Stigma" Media Recognition Awards for their outstanding and compassionate journalism in covering stories about people with mental illness.



U.S. Congressman Rush Holt accepts Special Recognition Award for serving as a NAMI NJ 2003 Walk Honorary Chair. He urged advocates to contact legislators about parity and the importance of the "Freedom from Stigma" Walk in sending a strong message.

NAMI NEW JERSEY

is a private non-profit statewide grassroots organization dedicated to improving the lives of persons affected by mental illness through support, education, and advocacy.

NAMI NJ is an affiliate of NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill)-The Nation's Voice on Mental Illness

Sylvia Axelrod, Executive Director
Mark Perrin, M.D., President

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NAMI NEW JERSEY WALKS for Freedom from Stigma

**Sunday
October 10, 2004
Liberty State Park
Jersey City**

WALK Honorary Chairs

U.S. Senator Jon Corzine
U.S. Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen
U.S. Congressman Rush Holt
U.S. Congressman Robert Menendez
N.J. State Senator Diane Allen
N.J. State Legislator Leonard Lance

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