NAMI NJ School Outreach Director Lorrie Baumann Named Outstanding Woman in Somerset County in Education

North Brunswick, NJ - March 18, 2013 - NAMI New Jersey is proud to announce that Lorrie Baumann, NAMI NJ's Director of School Education Programs, has been selected as an Outstanding Woman in Somerset County in the category of Education for 2013 by the Somerset County Commission on the Status of Women (SCCSW). The award recognizes her exceptional accomplishments and dedication to improving mental health awareness in the schools and the community. Lorrie will be honored at the SCCSW Award Dinner on Friday, March 22.

"The 21 honorees represent a cross-section of backgrounds, abilities and endeavors," said Freeholder Mark Caliguire, commission liaison. "It is our pleasure to recognize them for the many contributions they have made to their communities."

As director of National Alliance on Mental Illness of New Jersey's school education programs since 2010, Lorrie has co-developed and coordinates a professional development program called "Educating the Educators" to help educators who work with children in grades K-12 who have psychiatric disorders; the program has educated more than 6,000 professionals in schools throughout New Jersey. Lorrie also co-developed another NAMI NJ school outreach program "Every Mind Matters", with a mental health and wellness curriculum for students in Grades 5-12 and Grades 9-12 to enhance their knowledge about physical and mental health and strengthen their coping strategies in dealing with stressful feelings and situations.