# Rotary Club of Hilton Head Island



# NAMI Presentation - Sarah Eliasoph

-Mental illness is an equal opportunity disease; it does not respect the boundaries of geography, race, culture, age, or gender. It takes many forms, requires a variety of remedies and responses, and can be present in any family or group. And yet, one of the most predictable social responses is to ignore it despite the devastating toll it can take on individuals, families and communities. However, the presentation by Sarah Eliasoph, executive director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Lowcountry (NAMI), provided a comprehensive overview of the important work that the organization is doing to bring mental illness out of the shadows by educating the public about the often destructive impact mental illness can have on individuals, families and communities, and by developing programs that serve all of those touched by mental illness.

In her presentation, Eliasoph dramatically combined the actual work of NAMI with personal stories and national, and local data about the shocking prevalence of mental illness. For example, she provided data that showed that 1 in 25 adults in the United States experience persistent and serious mental illness that substantially undermines the quality of their lives. In Beaufort County that translates to over 5,700 people, and in neighboring Jasper County, that translates to over 1,000 people.

Among the most sobering facts Eliasoph presented showed the impact that mental illness has on young people: 10% of school age children are afflicted with a mental illness, and for many, this is life-shaping because 50% of all lifetime cases start by age fourteen; 37% of students with mental illness drop out of school; 70% of youth caught up in the justice system suffer from some form of mental illness. Unfortunately, support for the treatment of mental illness for children and adults is limited because public agencies are under-funded, and under-staffed, and focus on short-term treatment rather than long-term recovery. As a result, the work of NAMI, a non-profit agency, plays a vital role in addressing the problem of mental illness. Significantly, their programs, NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group, NAMI Peer-to Peer, and NAMI Family Support Group take on a greater sense of urgency.

# **Club Meeting**

Hilton Head Island Meets at Sea Pines Country Club 30 Governors Rd Hilton Head Island, SC 29928 Time: Thursday at 12:30 PM

# **Speakers**

January 31, 2019
Fellowship Lunch - No Program
February 07, 2019
Frank Soule and Alan Perry
An update on the newly
renovated Island Rec center.

### **Events**

February 9th
HHI Marathon
February 23rd
Happy Feet
March 2nd
ROCS - Rotarians Offering
Community Service

## **Birthdays**

Brian R. Stertzer January 27th Robert M. Lee January 28th

# **Wedding Anniversaries**

Ahmad T. Ward January 29th Ward Nelson Kirby January 30th

# **Years of Service**

Michael L. M. Jordan 01-30-1974 45 Years Theodore M. Gregg, Jr. 01-20-2005 14 Years Dorothy G. Perkins 01-26-2009 10 Years Daniel J. Sinkiewicz 01-18-2018 1 Year

### Club Leaders

- The full conference runs March 22-24. Go to www.Rotary7770 for information about the conference and the registration form. Everyone planning to attend **THE WHOLE CONFERENCE** must register on that website. You can also pick and choose just the events you want to attend.
- · We will have no regular meeting the Thursday March 21 so you are encouraged to attend the luncheon on Friday (which also entitles you to attend the first afternoon session. The total fee for the lunch is \$40. **HOWEVER**, for those of you who pay for your weekly lunches thru your quarterly invoice, \$20 of the total lunch fee will already be covered. You will be responsible only for paying the remaining \$20 and will have it added to your April 1 invoice.
- · If you are planning to attend the lunch only, there will be sign-up sheets available in the near future so you do not have to do the on-line registration. This is DG David Tirard's conference and it behooves as many of our members as possible to attend as much of the conference as you possibly can to honor him and show off our club's accomplishments.

For the 5<sup>th</sup> year, our Club is providing volunteer course monitors at the Hilton Head Marathon, Half-Marathon and 8K on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**. It is an easy fund-raiser for us....we don't have to give money, or ask for money. We get to watch a fun event and let others do all the work. For about 2 hours of our time, we receive a substantial donation from the Marathon sponsors which we can use to fund other charity donations. Are you an early riser? Take the early shift starting at 7:15 (report to the Children's Center or Crossings Park– you'll be given your assignment; ). Shifts starting at 8:15 and 10:30 will report to Grace Community Church. The 9:15 shift will report to Point Comfort Circle. So, even if you take the latest shift, you should still be home by 1:00 at the latest. Please sign up with Mike Jukofsky, Joe Chappell or Dean Roberts. Please try and make time to support this event.





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