



John Jones

**Past President
National Alliance on Mental Illness [NAMI]
Pinellas County Florida**

When John's daughter was diagnosed with a serious mental illness, the family was devastated. At that time, they knew very little about mental illness, but, within a very short period of time, they dove right in and learned as much as possible about neurological brain disorders. John became a very strong advocate for persons with mental illnesses through the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Pinellas County Florida.

John Jones served as President for two terms, continued to serve on the Executive Board of Directors, and is the current Treasurer. His leadership skills were immediately evident to grassroots organization. He and his wife, Anne, Co-Chaired the End the Mystery major fund raisers for three continuous years!

John regularly attends and participates in various critical groups that focus on mental health issues, e.g., Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition, Local Advocacy Council, member of FACT Advisory Council, etc.

Due to his passion for the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) training, John serves on the CIT Committee as the CIT Liaison Coordinator for Family and Consumer Perspective presentations.

John is the owner of Jones Plumbing and Pipe Cleaning, a successful plumbing business. He continues his service to the community in his personal life by: 1) providing pro-bono plumbing to other non-profit organizations; and, 2) leasing rental properties to low-income persons with mental illness.

As a result of his leadership, NAMI Pinellas has received considerable recognition in Florida and nationwide. At the NAMI Florida statewide conference in November 2004, NAMI Pinellas County was presented with the ΔAffiliate of the Year Award. Then, in June 2005, at the NAMI National Conference, NAMI Pinellas County was awarded the ΔNational Affiliate of the Year Award.@

John has also been recognized for his outstanding leadership:

- 2006 -- NAMI Pinellas County's Iris Award
- 2006 -- United Way Volunteer of the Year Award.
- 2006 -- John and his wife, Anne, were both awarded the NAMI End the Mystery Advocates of the Year.