



**Cuyahoga County
Community Mental Health Board**

1400 West 25th Street, 3rd Floor • Cleveland, Ohio • 44113-3199
TEL: (216) 241-3400 • FAX: (216) 861-5067 • TDD/TTY: (216) 241-3983

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Contact: Scott S. Osiecki, Director of External Affairs
(216) 241-3400, ext. 361

CCCMHB Receives Outstanding Board of the Year Award from NAMI Ohio

CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO -- The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio (NAMI Ohio), the country's largest state mental health advocacy organization, recently presented the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board (CCCMHB) with the 2006 Board of the Year Award.

The CCCMHB was recognized for the commitment to the citizens whose lives have been impacted by mental illness. According to Terry Russell, Executive Director of NAMI Ohio, no behavioral health board in the state of Ohio has embraced the family and consumer movement more than the CCCMHB.

The award was presented to William M. Denihan, Chief Executive Office of the CCCMHB. During the presentation, Harvey Snider, President of NAMI Ohio, stated, "At a time when mental health systems everywhere are transforming to better serve the needs of the consumers and families that NAMI represents, the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board continues to be a leader by consistently focusing its attention and resources on individuals with a serious mental illness."

"I accept this award and want to acknowledge the dedication, commitment and compassion of our Board of Governors and staff who made it possible for the CCCMHB to receive this honor," said Denihan.

NAMI Ohio's largest affiliate, NAMI of Greater Cleveland, contributed the success of its recent merger to the leadership of the CCCMHB. Mr. Lovell Custard, Board President of NAMI Greater Cleveland, stated, "Chief William Denihan's leadership changes lives every day here in Cuyahoga County. He has set the pace for the state. His drive to ensure employment opportunities for those in recovery and his support for mental health consumers involved in the justice system is unparalleled."

Families and individuals whose lives are affected every day by mental illness are given comfort by the work of the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board, added Russell.

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