



# MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF ESSEX COUNTY, INC.

Robert N. Davison, M.A., L.P.C.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Joseph A. Gervasi, Esq.

### VICE PRESIDENT

Craig W. Alexander, Esq.

### VICE PRESIDENT & TREASURER

Kelly Frank, CPA

### SECRETARY

Naomi Kruvant

## BOARD MEMBERS

Cynthia L. Briney

Maritza Brown

Anthony Cannella

Patricia Corlett, LCSW

Beth Furman, CPA

Francesca Gervasi

Richard Hartly

Jerry Harwood

Jeffrey Heller, CPA

Stephen H. Knee, Esq.

Linda L. Kohl, Psy.D.

Phyllis Mechanic

Ellie Miller

Barry Novin

Todd Polyniak, CPA

Joanna Scheier, LCSW

Bea Sherman

Nancy Walther, LSW

Brigitte Wolkoff, Ph.D.

Sylvia Riskin, Ph.D.

Ex-Officio

November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear Family Member:

One of the most frustrating things for families is when their loved one lacks insight and refuses mental health services or the help that they desperately need. Families often complain that the existing mental health system is not able to respond to help their loved one until things accelerate to a critical and dangerous level. Too often, mental health intervention comes too late which results in a full blown psychiatric crisis, self destructive acts, injury, property damage or criminal involvement.

Families need to know there is an alternative system specifically designed to help their loved ones, who lack the insight to seek, or remain in mental health treatment. This system is called Assisted Outpatient Treatment and when carefully implemented, can help stop the revolving door back to the hospital.

To learn more about Assisted Outpatient Treatment, please join us on Wednesday January 11, 2012 from 7:00PM to 8:30PM at the Mental Health Association of Essex County, 33 S. Fullerton Avenue in Montclair.

The Intensive Family Support Services, (IFSS) a program of the MHAEC will showcase 2 videos about Assisted Outpatient Commitment followed by a question and answer discussion among the audience. The first 6 minute video shows a mother and father talking about their 38 year old daughter diagnosed with schizophrenia and how it was only through Assisted Outpatient Commitment that their daughter was able to receive the help she needed. The second 30 minute video is a heartbreaking yet hopeful documentary of how Assisted Outpatient Commitment, also known as Court Ordered Treatment, saves lives and families.

We look forward to seeing you for what promises to be a thought provoking and stimulating discussion.

Marvin Gorsky, LCSW  
Director, Intensive Family Support Services  
Mental Health Association of Essex County

