

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **NAMI Honors Exemplary Psychiatrists for "Going the Extra Mile" for Mental Health Care**

Columbia, MD, May 15, 2013 -- The National Alliance on Mental Illness ([NAMI](http://www.namimd.org)) will honor 20 doctors as "Exemplary Psychiatrists" at the American Psychiatric Association's ([APA](http://www.apa.org)) annual conference in San Francisco on May 20, 2013.

"We are proud to honor these psychiatrists for their exceptional dedication to people living with mental illness," said National NAMI Executive Director Michael J. Fitzpatrick. "They have earned our respect and thanks."

NAMI's annual [Exemplary Psychiatrists Awards](#) honor psychiatrists who "go the extra mile" in their commitment to excellent mental health care, reducing the stigma that has traditionally surrounded mental illness and working closely with NAMI members in their communities for public education and advocacy.

NAMI State Organizations or NAMI Affiliates nominate each year's honorees. [Dr. Mark S. Komrad](#) is [NAMI Maryland's](#) nominee and selected as an "Exemplary Psychiatrist."

Dr. Komrad is a psychiatrist on the clinical and teaching staff of Sheppard Pratt Hospital and the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Maryland, and on the teaching faculty of Oceania University of Medicine in Samoa. For 25 years he has treated patients and advised people on how to convince an emotionally or behaviorally troubled loved-one to accept psychiatric evaluation and treatment. He has worked in both outpatient and inpatient settings, and has had extensive experience with the process of involuntary treatment of patients in emergency rooms and hospitals.

### **About NAMI Maryland**

NAMI Maryland is a grassroots organization dedicated to education, support and advocacy for persons with mental illnesses, their families and the wider community. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals with mental illnesses and their families. For more information go to [www.namimd.org](http://www.namimd.org) or call 1.877.878.2371.