

**Do You Have A Story to Tell About Living with a Person Who Has a Dual Diagnosis (IDD/MI)?**  
**The NADD Family Issues Committee is seeking papers for a book to help families and professionals better understand the challenges and ways to conquer them!**

**All lengths will be considered!**  
**Confidentiality and Anonymity will be respected.**

**Assistance and support are available—just let us know!**

**Possible topics include:**

- What is your story?
- When were you first aware that your child was different or that the child had problems?
- What were your reactions upon learning that your child had a disability? Has that reaction changed over time? How?
- How have you dealt with your feelings about your child's disability?
- Did your child and/or the family encounter stigma concerning your child's disability?
- Give a brief description of your child, including some of the things that make your child special.
- What was your experience of dealing with medical/behavioral health personnel concerning your child?
- What was your experience trying to get appropriate services for your child?
- What challenges did you encounter concerning school and education?
- If your child is an adult, what challenges did you encounter concerning: medical and mental health services; housing; employment; day programs?
- What was your experience dealing with family and friends? What was most helpful? What was least helpful?
- Did having a child with a disability has an impact on marital relations? How did it impact family dynamics?
- Was there an impact on siblings of the child who has a disability?
- What lessons have you learned? What advise might you want to share with others?
- What were your strategies, successful and not successful, to build partnerships with service providers?
- How did you develop advocacy skills? Did this change over your child's lifetime?

- How did you manage issues of compliance or non-compliance with providers?  
Do you have any stories to share?
- How did you manage the stressors related to supporting a loved one with a dual diagnosis?
- How did you insure your family values and culture were integrated into the care your loved one received?
- Do you have a story of hope to share?

**Important Date: Submissions Due by January 1, 2015**

**NADD Web Address:** [www.thenadd.org](http://www.thenadd.org)

**Book Theme:** Building Bridges Between Families, Communities and Providers

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