

# NAMI Lake County Illinois

## General Education Meeting - Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 7-8:30 pm

### Please join us on Google Meet

**Topic - Emotional Support Animals (ESAs)**  
Presentation will cover the aspects of the ESA program and the mission of Paws for Patrick



**Guest Presenter:**  
**Kirstian Warkins**



**Paws For Patrick:** A non-profit organization dedicated to connecting young people to emotional support animals (ESAs) to support them as they cope with mental health issues. We help facilitate the acquisition of ESAs for young people coping with mental health issues, by providing and sourcing the animals, as well as training and educating, and securing letters of certification. We also have therapy dogs that visit schools and homes.



**Guest Presenter:**  
**Dan Maigler**



Kirstian Warkins, volunteers on the Board of Directors for Paws for Patrick as the Chair of our Wish Granter team. Kirstian is both Fronzie's sister and Patrick's Godmother. Her work with us is deeply personal and she can both see and feel the impact this is making on the clients we help. "It's that unconditional love you get with a pet . . . the therapeutic benefits of that love are just undeniable."

Dan Maigler volunteers on the Paws for Patrick Board of Directors as the Mental Health Advisor. Dan has been working with young people with mental health issues since 1999 in a variety of settings including group homes, mental health hospitals, as a therapist in private practice and primarily schools. Dan spent 5 years as a guidance counselor and has been a school social worker for 15 years. "I decided to serve on the P4P board because Patrick taught me so much about what an animal can do for a person's mental health."