

MOVIE REVIEW: *Kings Park*

By Doug Bradley, NAMI HelpLine Associate

The movie *Kings Park* recounts filmmaker Lucy Winer's commitment while she was a teenager to a state hospital and examines the change in mental health care in America over the past several decades. Although Kings Park State Hospital is closed, Winer is able to visit the grounds and buildings of this hospital, where she recalls her suicidal thinking, treatment and recovery. She interviews former patients and staff members who have varying memories of Kings Park. She also examines the effect that the widespread closing of state hospitals has on mental health care throughout the country, the collapse of the promise of good community care and the resulting diversion of many people living with mental illness to jails and prisons. Both a personal narrative and a documentary, *Kings Park* is an honest, balanced and fascinating view of America's mental health care system, past and present.



Kings Park will be shown on Friday evening, June 29, at the NAMI 2012 National Convention. For more information about the film please visit <http://kingsparkmovie.com/>