



# Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Consumer Connections Paves the Way for Peers with Funding for CRSP

**November 21, 2023** – In a groundbreaking move to support our dedicated graduates, Consumer Connections is excited to announce a new initiative that will remove financial barriers to professional growth. Thanks to generous funding from the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), we are proud to cover the application fee for the Certified Recovery Support Practitioner (CRSP) credential for all eligible Consumer Connections graduates.

Historically, individuals completing our Consumer Connections Core training program were tasked with pursuing the CRSP credential independently, often facing a significant financial hurdle with a \$175 application fee. This proved to be a deterrent for many, hindering their ability to advance their careers and contribute to the peer field.

Consumer Connections is committed to promoting inclusivity and accessibility in mental health and co-occurring services peer support. We understand that there may be individuals who haven't considered obtaining the CRSP credential due to its associated costs. By securing funding from DMHAS, we are now able to extend this support to our graduates and encourage them to pursue the CRSP credential without financial concerns.

Consumer Connections invites all eligible Core graduates to take advantage of this incredible opportunity. Details on eligibility and how to apply for the CRSP credential with the covered application fee will be provided through our official communication channels and during upcoming Consumer Connections sessions.

### About Consumer Connections

Consumer Connections is a statewide program of the Mental Health Association in New Jersey. Consumer Connections is dedicated to strengthening and expanding peer workforce development. Through the creation of high-quality training and educational opportunities, our goal is to empower individuals working as Peer Specialists to use their lived experience to support others in moving toward wellness and recovery.

[www.mhanj.org/consumer-connections](http://www.mhanj.org/consumer-connections)

[ConsumerConnections@mhanj.org](mailto:ConsumerConnections@mhanj.org)