Monadnock PEER SUPPORT

FY24 Annual Report



OUR MISSION

Providing mental health support for individuals seeking wellness through a mutually supportive peer community.







Mental health differences are universally accepted and understood and the communities where we work collaborate to reduce stigma, with the result that no one feels alone, ashamed or judged for their mental health struggles





We believe in the inherent value of each individual

We are honest and show a consistent and uncompromising adherence to ethical principals

We believe in the ability to identify and understand other people's emotions

We believe in journeying together

We believe that we are each accountable for our actions

Letter from the Site Director

Dear Friends,

This was a great year for Monadnock Peer Support (MPS)! Thanks to the generosity of our members, supporters, donors, volunteers, staff and Board of Directors, we have been addressing the unmet needs of those in need in the Monadnock Region.

Your partnership is what makes the life-changing work of MPS possible. Without you, we would not be able to provide hope and support to those in our community that suffer with mental health setbacks. At its core, a peer support community is a space where individuals with shared experiences come together to offer mutual support and understanding.

Unlike traditional support groups, which may be led by professionals, peer support emphasizes the value of lived experience. By coming together, we can create an atmosphere of mutual support that uplifts each individual, fostering healing and growth.

Your generosity ensures that MPS can be there for our community day after day. We are serious about our responsibility to steward your gifts with care. 97 cents of every donated dollar is spent directly on people-centered programs right here in our community, such as our local trips, events, educational opportunities, and residential programs.

Thank you for helping MPS shine a light on the mental health crisis and breaking the stigma around it by showing your support. One day together, we will achieve our vision of a world where mental health differences are accepted and understood. A world where the communities where we work collaborate to reduce stigma, and a place where no one feels alone, ashamed or judged for their mental health struggles.

With gratitude, Karen Richi

Site Director

MPS Board Roster FY24



Tara Abbott Board Chair



Eli Rivera Vice Chair



Kevin Tighe Secretery



Chris Minkler At-Large



Gretchen Wittenborg At-Large



Mandy White At-Large



Eleni Peterson At-Large



Devan Blake At-Large



Jennifer Friedman At-Large

Programming by the Numbers

Total Respite Guests: 73

Total SUSD Guests: 38



About 10,000 miles driven in the van and Explorer





Groups:

- 1. Women's Group
- 2. Beyond Depression/Bipolar
- 3. Healthy Eating
- 4. Gaming Group
- 5. Anxiety/Depression

Average Amount of Daily Visitors



But we have seen as many

MPS served in the community by participating in the Community Kitchen's Summer lunch program, helping bag lunches with Love Thy Neighbor and participated in Earth Day cleanup!



We performed outreach at:

YMCA, Ashuelot Park, Mental Health
Fair, Earth Day Festival, Cheshire
Medical Center, Monadnock Food CoOp, Keene Pumpkin Festival, Keene
Pride Festival, , and more!



16 trip destinations Average Group Size



6-8

What did we accomplish in FY24?



We launched two new support groups:



All our staff was trained in CPR, AED and First Aid





In June, we held a Board
Training Workshop



We hosted the our 2nd annual



Floating Lanterns Festival

- \$11,714.47 Raised
- 500 people attended
- 200 lanterns launched

We launched a fundraiser at

Keene Pumpkin Festival raising \$942!





We drafted and launched a new Employee Handbook





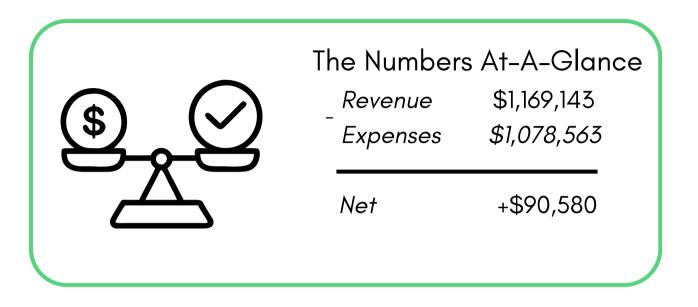


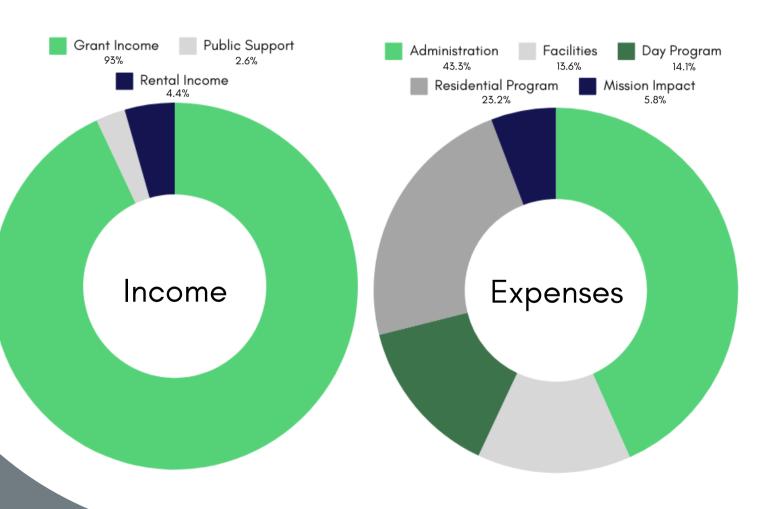
We drafted and launched a FY25 Strategic Plan All our staff was **WRAP** trained in March



We are looking forward to 2025!

FY24 Fiscal Report





How has MPS impacted the lives of our members?

MPS was a turning point for me, because when I found it, I had just lost my career and it gave me the tools to get my life back. Peer support skills have helped me ever since. Now that I am back as an employee, I am able to put the skills I've learned to use every day to help other people.



-- Frank White



I really love this place. They really do give good support to everyone no matter what. They are always there for you if you need to talk, just say hi, etc... All the staff there are like family to me. I have a rhyming nick name for them all. Each and every group they run really does help me learn new things.

-- Felicia Chase

In 2020, when Covid hit and the world shut down, I lost all my social outputs. When MPS reopened in the Summer of 2020, I began attending and slowly started participating more. Since then, I have been attending more groups and learning how peer to peer support helps people feel connected and feel better. I'm hoping to work here some day, because I want to help people. I think I can help others like me by making them feel they have someone to listen to them and support them.



--Julie Shonbeck

How can you be a bigger part of our community?



Make a financial contribution to our agency online, or with cash or check



Attend a group, get and give support to and from other community members



Follow us on social media, subscribe to our monthly newsletter and stay up to date on MPS news and events



Give us a call to answer any questions you may have about what we offer or call our warmline 4PM to 9PM 7 days a week!



Be a speaker at our community meetings and share your knowledge and resources with the community



Spread the word about us! Please share our info with anyone you think could use our support and services.





December 15, 1993 - April 11, 2024