Consumer Initiative Fund (CIF) 2023-2024 Annual Report



The Consumer Initiative Fund (CIF) is a program that funds and supports people in Vancouver with lived/living experience of mental health and/or substance use challenges (also known as peers).

CIF strives to empower individuals through meaningful involvement by creating opportunities for peers to make their own choices, set their own goals, build capacity, and connect with community members.

During the 2023-2024 fiscal year CIF funded 15 community projects and awarded 211 individual grants.

CIF Projects

- Drawing Fundamentals
- Nate's Community Kitchen Club
- Musings from Lived Experience
- Special Action Committee (SAC)
- Let Art Shine A Path
- Computer Technician Training
- Professional Artistic Growth Made Accessible
- Adventures in Short Film Writing
- Tour Vancouver
- Creative Expressions Art Nights
- Hearing Voices Study Club
- Improvisational Theatre
- Portrait and Perspective Drawing

Individual Grants

Crisis Grant (\$85)

124 funded \$10540

(see detailed stats)



Art Grant (\$85)

64 funded

\$5440

Education & Leisure Fund (\$400)

23 funded

\$9200

Hours of Service = 970+

by project leaders and assistants

Total # of Activities = 189

Total # of Individuals Served = 240+

This year our website www.SpotlightOnMentalHealth.com got a complete makeover. Spotlight started as a peer-run CIF project many years ago. It steadily expanded to become the resource hub for all programs under Consumer Involvement & Initiates, and Family Involvement. The website continues to be run by individuals with lived/living experience, and is a key platform to engage with the peer community.

CIF has been in operation for 29 years, since 1995!

Crisis Grant Statistics 124 Funded 198 Applied 63% Referred by Community 62% MHSU Teams 38%



