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MEDIA ADVISORY
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FUNDING RESTORED FOR RECOVERY COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

A \$2.5 million cut in funding for the Recovery Community Services Program (RCSP) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has been restored after calls for its restoration from people in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, their family members, friends and allies.

The RCSP program demonstrates that people who are no longer using alcohol or other drugs can be reunited with their families, linked to jobs, housing and other supports and become productive, tax-paying members of their communities. It does this by bringing the recovery community together in cities, towns and reservations across the United States in a variety of innovative recovery support programs. According to a recent report from the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine, RCSP grantees' services "prevent relapse, promote timely reentry into treatment when relapse occurs, and aid in achieving sustained recovery and an enhanced quality of life." The RCSP program complements, extends, and enhances the formal treatment provided by professionals. Peer services provide the community connectedness and social support that are so necessary to sustain recovery.

Statements:

The Honorable Jim Ramstad (R-MN), US House of Representatives

"As a co-chair of the Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus, I'm pleased SAMHSA has preserved this critical program, which provides hope to millions of individuals who are living a sober life, free from the ravages of chemical addiction."

Merlyn Karst, Chair, Board of Directors, Faces & Voices of Recovery

"Faces & Voices of Recovery, people in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, their family members, friends and allies are pleased that SAMHSA has restored funds for the RCSP program. We successfully mobilized the recovery community because the RCSP program is the only federal program that supports a variety of innovative efforts making it possible for people who are no longer using alcohol or other drugs to live full and productive lives. There are millions of Americans in recovery from addiction and tens of thousands more get well every year."

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