

A Partnership
Rooted in
Community
*Community
Connections Inc.
and First Citizens’
Federal Credit Union:*

For more information about
Community Connections Inc., visit
communityconnectionsinc.org.



To learn more about First Citizens’
community initiatives, visit
firstcitizens.org.



Cape Cod is strengthened by its people: neighbors who show up for one another, businesses that invest in more than the bottom line, nonprofits that make sure every individual has the chance to be included. That spirit of community is at the heart of what both Community Connections Inc. (CCI) and First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union (FCFCU) do every day.

Community Connections supports adults with intellectual developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorder (IDD/ASD) by offering person-centered services that build independence and create true inclusion. CCI helps people participate fully in the places they live and work while respecting each individual’s goals and strengths. First Citizens’ strengthens those same communities by partnering with nonprofits and showing up with integrity and genuine care. Together, these organizations prove that when people commit to inclusion and community, everyone benefits.

Both Community Connections and First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union are working toward the same vision: Cape Cod and Southeastern MA communities where every person is valued and included. For three years, First Citizens’ has joined CCI’s Family Fun Day and Walk, celebrating alongside participants and their families. They are also a familiar presence at the event’s Trunk or Treat, where their team adds fun and connection to a favorite tradition.

“At First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union, we believe that strong communities are built when everyone can thrive. Community Connections shares that same belief by creating inclusive spaces and empowering individuals with disabilities to live full, meaningful lives. Supporting Community Connections is a natural extension of our values, and we’re proud to stand alongside them in strengthening the communities we all call home.” — Melanie Howell, Director of Marketing and Community Connection, First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union

Participant Success Story: Christina’s Journey Through Employment Services
Christina is a participant in CCI’s Cape Cod Employment Services, and her story shows how the right support can open doors to independence and community.

When she first began working at a local chamber of commerce, Christina had a job coach by her side for every shift. Her early role involved restocking brochures for the chamber. With steady encouragement, she built confidence and slowly started to take on more responsibility.

After a year, Christina began answering phones and greeting visitors at the chamber. At first, she was nervous about speaking with people she did not know, but she gave herself the chance to try. Today, welcoming visitors is her primary responsibility, and she has become the friendly, reliable face that greets community members each day.

Today, Christina attends Chamber events like dinners and ceremonies and has grown more confident in every part of her life.

Christina’s journey is a reminder of why CCI’s mission matters. Employment services provide a path to building confidence, gaining independence, and finding a true sense of belonging.

Looking Ahead

As Community Connections continues to grow, it has adapted to meet the changing needs of people with disabilities. Increasingly, that means creating opportunities beyond the walls of a program building. Through community-based programs such as **Explorers** and **Community-Based Day Supports (CBDS)**, participants spend their days engaging with their neighbors, volunteering, and building practical skills.

CBDS offers a pathway to employment by helping individuals prepare for the skills needed to get and keep a job, whether that is learning workplace routines, practicing communication, or developing confidence in new environments. A new CBDS program in Plymouth will expand these opportunities, giving more individuals the chance to connect with their communities and take the next steps toward independence.

The support of community-minded partners like First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union makes this growth possible. By investing in inclusion, they help ensure that every person, regardless of ability, has the chance to be part of a thriving community. Together, they are strengthening the fabric of Cape Cod and Southeastern Massachusetts.



Community Connections supports over 750 adults with intellectual developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorder (IDD/ASD) across southeastern MA and Cape Cod.

Together with partners like First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union, we’re building stronger, more inclusive communities making the places we live and work better for all.



Fairhaven Fall River Mashpee Plymouth South Yarmouth Wareham

communityconnectionsinc.org