

CISFA

Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

The first step to saving our ocean is helping people to connect with it.



Dear Friends,

Since our founding over 20 years ago, CISF has been about more than sailing.

We've grounded our work in the knowledge that human connection with the natural environment is fundamentally important for all of us. And that sometimes those who could benefit most from time spent on the water are those that have the least opportunity to get there.

Thanks to you, we've grown into a robust marine education organization that provides multiple ways for our community to learn, grow and connect with Rhode Island's incredible natural resources. The Town of Jamestown has been a key partner since our early days, and we are grateful for their continued support as we grow and evolve.

In 2022, your support enabled us to reach more young people than ever before through our year-round education programs. We explored new partnerships outside of Jamestown and developed a program that highlights marine workforce opportunities for Providence youth. And we doubled down on our commitment to events and programs for all ages that foster environmental awareness to help protect our beloved coastline. We believe that the first step to saving our ocean is helping people to connect with it.

Looking ahead to the fall, we are excited to launch the Ocean State Citizens Program, a new climate change curriculum for middle school students from around the state. And to continue our focused planning for building a bricks and mortar Community Sailing and Marine Education Center at Fort Getty.

None of this is possible without you, our incredible community of supporters and volunteers. Thank you for partnering with us, we look forward to continuing our work together for years to come!

With Gratitude,

Meg Myles, *Executive Director*

Hannah Swett, *President, Board of Directors*

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OUR MISSION

Through boating and education, CISF inspires and engages people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities with the marine environment.

OUR WORK

CISF has provided access to Rhode Island's waterfront in different ways for over 20 years. Since 2000, we've evolved from a scholarship provider into a marine education organization with a suite of programs supporting young people to gain leadership skills, learn the value of outdoor activity, learn boating, and become environmental stewards. We are committed to continued program growth with a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.



OUR CORE VALUES



POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Use sailing as a platform for personal growth, provide confidence-building, leadership, & team work opportunities



OPPORTUNITY

Foster competence and confidence on the water and in the marine environment by offering affordable access to boating opportunities & marine education instruction on Narragansett Bay.



2022 PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

IGNITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL YOUTH

CISF CORE VALUE: POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

We explored exciting new avenues for positive youth development this year in collaboration with YouthBuild Providence. Our Marine Trades Workforce Development program hosted a series of six incredible field trips for a group of typically under-served high school students and young adults from Providence. Students visited with a wide variety of marine-based businesses to learn about different pathways and trades within the industry. They tried out equipment, learned skills of the trade, and made great connections with business owners, who were thrilled to meet and educate a potential new pipeline of job-seekers. Next year we'll expand this program to include a second group of ten students and an even broader list of local business partners.

BOATING FOR ALL

CISF CORE VALUE: OPPORTUNITY

We are deeply committed to providing low-cost opportunities for people of all ages to get out on the water and enjoy beautiful Narragansett Bay. To this end, our free weekly sailing program had its biggest year yet in summer 2022, with over 200 participants! We also partnered with TPG Marinas to launch a community sailing program. Over 100 people took lessons on our Sonar keelboat, *Hakuna Matata*. In both programs, participants from age 5 to 85 came together to learn, sail, connect with the outdoors, and have fun.

BUSINESS HOSTS

Dynamic Yacht Rigging
Flux Marine
IYRS School of
Technology & Trades
Safe Harbor /
New England Boatworks
Sailor and Seam
Seven Star Marine
Engineering



EDUCATION

Provide environmental and science-based programming, with a focus on fun and hands-on learning



STEWARDSHIP

Through education & personal impact awareness, create generations of informed marine and environmental stewards



HANDS-ON STEM PROGRAMS CISF CORE VALUE: EDUCATION

CISF's hands-on STEM education programs reach kids in all different settings, in-school, after school and even on school vacation days. Whether we are building simple machines in the woods, exploring how worms help create compost, or building model boats and testing them on the water, our goal is to introduce kids to scientific concepts by making learning fun.

FORAGING OUR WAY TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP CISF CORE VALUE: STEWARDSHIP

Nothing gets middle schoolers excited about the outdoors like... eating snails?! This year, our weekly survival skills workshop for middle schoolers did just that, while also giving pre-teens hands-on experience with fire building, foraging for food and medicinal plants, making and using tools, and cooking. Since Periwinkle snails are an invasive species, collecting and eating them has a positive impact on the marine environment. By taking away some of the competition for native species, the students learned a way to help balance the ecosystem. This type of experiential marine education has lasting impact, helping students to connect with our natural assets to inspire Rhode Island's next generation of environmental stewards.

2022 Programs

HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Farming and Weather Systems, *grade 3-8*
Junior Nature Explorers, *ages 5-7*
Sailing and Marine Education, *grades 3-8*
Marine Engineering and Survival Skills, *grades 3-8*
ROV's and Trees, *grades 3-8*

FRIDAY EXPLORATIONS, *ages 5 to 15*

All About Trees
Birding Hike, Conanicut Sanctuary Trail
Engineering with Simple Machines
Fall Gardening
Geology
Hike the Rocks at Getty
How Do Boats Float?
How Sailboats Work
Intro to Sailing
Invasive Species
Kayaking Adventures
Naturalist Skills and Illustration
Putting Our Gardens to Bed
Recycle Regatta STEM Challenge
Rock Climbing at Getty
Salt Marsh Species Count
Sun and Shadows
Weather and Water

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Backyard Explorers, *grades 1-4*
Eco-Club, *grades 5-8*
Fairy House Building, *grades 1-4*
Games at Getty, *grades 1-3*
Junior Naturalist Training, *grades 2-4*
Kayaking, *grades 5-8*
Nature Art, *grades 3-7*
Nature Explorers, *grades K-2*
Nature Journaling, *grades 2-4*
Outdoor Rocks! *grade 2-8*
Outdoor Survival Skills, *grades 3-8*
Sailing, *grades 3-8*

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

21st Century Student, *grades 1-3*
Creek Support (science class,) *grade 8*
Kindergarten Science Educator
Kindergarten Team Building
Marsh Data Collection & Naturalist Illustration,
Melrose School, *grade 6*
ROV Testing & Species Identification
SEA Perch testing, *grade 6*
Worm Wednesdays Composting

ADULT & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Adult Sailing
Campfire Crafts, *all ages*
Community Sailing Lessons, *all ages*
Fairy House Scavenger Hunt, *all ages*
Fourth Grade sailing
Free Sailing
Navigation Basics

VACATION DAY PROGRAMS

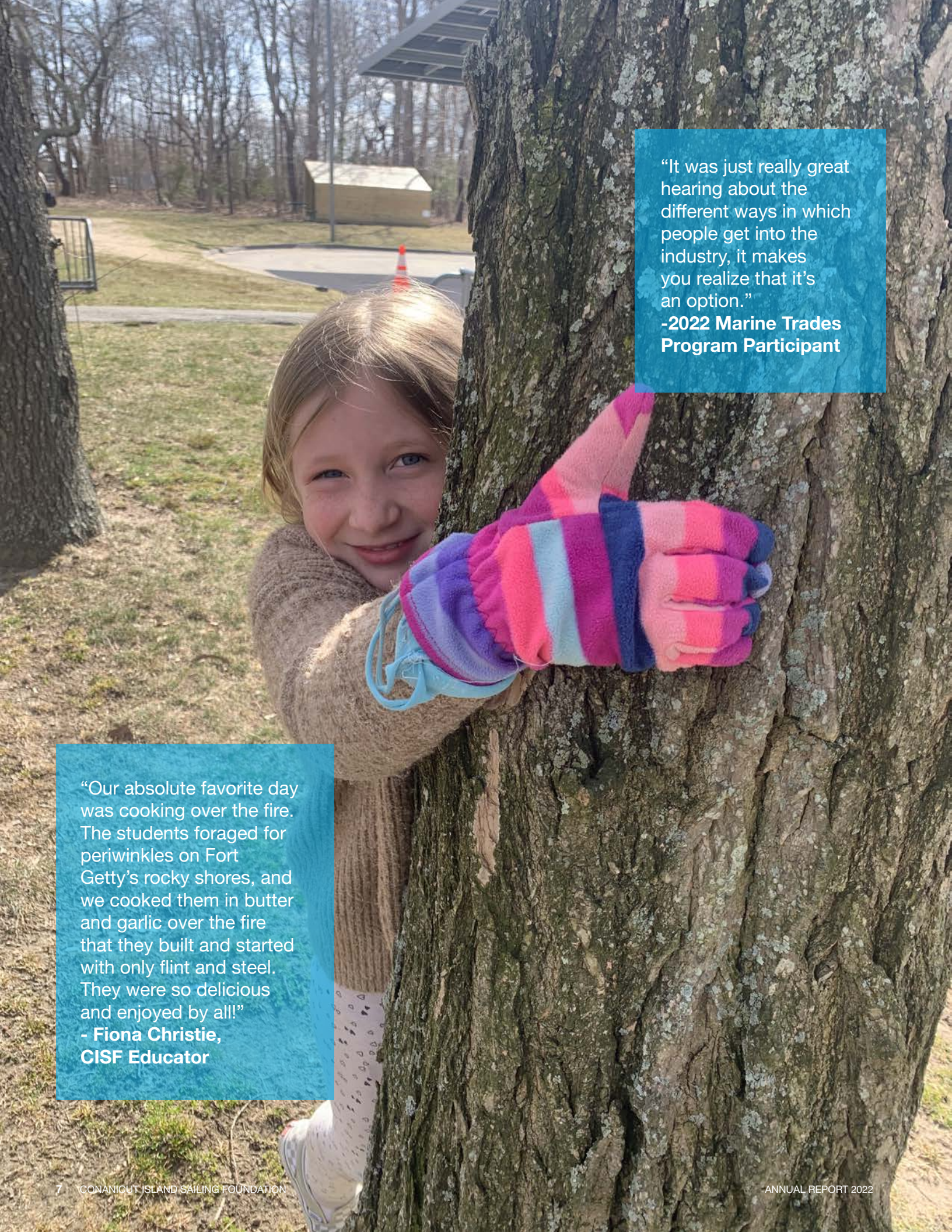
Birdhouse Building
Engineering with Simple Machines
Fairyhouse Building
Gardening & Seed Starting
Nature Art, *grades 3-7*
Survival Skills, *grades 3-7*

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Fab Newport - Marsh & Outdoor Exploration
Movement Education Outdoors - Sailing
Sophia Academy – Marsh Exploration, Hiking, Knots
University of Rhode Island - GSO Shark Camp - Sailing
YouthBuild Providence - Marine Trades Workforce
Development Field Trip Program

FIELD TRIPS

Girl Scouts Troop – Outdoor Education (knots, starting a fire, cooking over a fire)
Island Treasures, *grades 5-8*
Maiden Homeschool Field Trip
Pre-Ocean Race 11th Hour Racing
Homeschool Field Trip
Second Grade Field Trip
Sixth Grade Field Trip
South County Montessori – Marsh Exploration
Third Grade Field Trip



“It was just really great hearing about the different ways in which people get into the industry, it makes you realize that it’s an option.”

-2022 Marine Trades Program Participant

“Our absolute favorite day was cooking over the fire. The students foraged for periwinkles on Fort Getty’s rocky shores, and we cooked them in butter and garlic over the fire that they built and started with only flint and steel. They were so delicious and enjoyed by all!”

**- Fiona Christie,
CISF Educator**

OUR IMPACT

- Over 1,100 kids learned, collaborated, and thrived at CISF programs.
- 290 kids climbed, built, and explored the outdoors in After School and Home School Programs.
- \$7,000 in scholarships and in-kind programming given in 2022.
- 354 elementary and middle school kids hypothesized, experimented, and discovered during CISF's in-school STEM Programs
- Boat Rentals tripled in 2022.
- 100 people improved their boating skills through community sailing lessons.
- 10 field trips brought 122 students to explore Fort Getty
- 9 weeks of Sea Adventure Camp hosted 517 campers
- Community sailing participation increased by 80%.
- 475 hours of school programs + 280 hours of summer programs = 755 hours of non-screen time for kids spent OUTSIDE splashing, climbing and learning!

A DEEP DIVE INTO PROGRAM QUALITY

In fall 2022, CISF worked with an outside evaluator who led us through a Program Quality Assessment process. We reviewed our practices to identify where they are most successful, and where they could be improved to create a learning environment that is safe, supportive, interactive and engaging. The process sparked productive conversations around how we can build on our strengths to make our programs even better. Key findings include:

- 100% of the time, in all programs, CISF demonstrated the highest level of quality social, emotional and safe program practices
- A 200% increase in improving youth's STEM learning experience by teaching them to develop hypotheses as part of the scientific process.
- Increased 21st Century skill development: youth learned to hone leadership skills, participate in groups with interdependent roles, and improve confidence and connections with peers.





2022 DONORS

These individuals and organizations made gifts to CISF between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022.

We're constantly inspired by our community of committed and generous donors. Our marine education and environmental programs would not exist without the support of the foundations, businesses, volunteers, and individuals that make it all possible. Every contribution truly makes a difference and is deeply appreciated.

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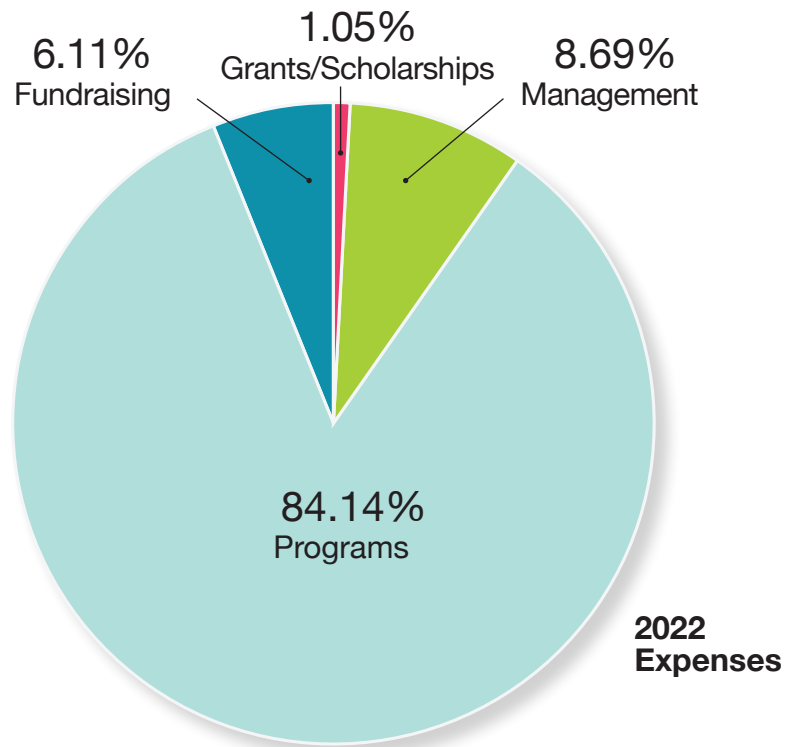
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“ I am always humbled by the big picture work of CISF, how you are always growing and evolving, and how you empower kids. ”
– Kelly G-Smith, parent

“ This is our time to be exploring, we shouldn't be on technology! ”
– CISF Junior Nature Explorer

2022 Financials



EXPENSES	2022	2021
Scholarships	4,640	11,600
Management	38,403	25,992
Program	371,621	291,581
Fundraising	27,008	9,677
Total Expenses	441,672	338,851

REVENUE	2022	2021
Donations	313,892	295,011
Grants	55,000	81,286
Events	45,236	-
Programs	160,075	146,810
Investments	21,179	25,761
Other	4,233	3,195
Total Revenue	599,615	552,063

Any surplus in annual funding provides CISF with a reserve fund for future capital and operating expenses as new initiatives emerge, and to protect against unexpected downturns in funding.



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