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
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.
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.
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
“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

“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 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.

Jeff and Joanne Adam
Agilent Technologies
Anonymous
Abigail Anthony and Ethan Brown
Ted and Betsy Baldwin
Hugh and Susan Balloch
Howard and Liani Balloch
Leslie Banker
Neill and Donata Barber
Rowland and Nancy Barrett
Janice Bell
Bickford Family Charitable Fund
Abby Jenkins and Jeff Boal
Clay Boden
Walter and Marguerite Bopp
Mr. George T. Boyer
Blair and Elizabeth Boyer
Breath of Spring
Lenny Brescia
Bert Brodin
Mark Brookes
Fred and Linda Brown
Jim and Lisa Bryer
Elaine Buchanan
Sylvia Maxfield and Chris Bulger
Fred and Jeannie Burditt
Jim and Eleanor Burgess
Carol Hopkins and Chris Cannon
Jennifer Clancy
Clark’s Boatyard
Malcolm “Doc” Clarke Jr.
John and Mary Cloud
Paul W. Coates
Ms. Jeanne Comerford
Peggy and Lyn Comfort
Creighton and Anne Condon
Kathryn and Tim Conway
Chris and Kelly Cowan
Isabel V Coyle
Carol and Paul Cronin
Dean Cycon
Elizabeth Daggett
Charles and Katherine Denault
Ric and Deb Detrioa
Devereux Ocean Foundation
Tatiana and Gino Difante
Mr. Henry Donaldson
Sean and Susan Doyle
Jed Drake and Suzy Leech
Matt and Yuping Dunbar
Amy Dunnington
Brian and Cecilia Dursi
Dynamic Yacht Rigging (In-kind)
Cassandra Earle
11th Hour Racing Team
Peter Elsworth
David and Patricia Evangelista
Lisa Barsuman and Thomas Farrell
Craig Feld
Dr. Richard Ferrante
Jen Kyner and Ed Field
Peter and Maria Flood
Daniel Forster
Lauren and C H Frankenbach III
Fulweiler LLC
Abigail Gabriel
A M Gagnon
Arthur J Gallagher Foundation
Malcolm Getter
Chariton and Nancy George
Martin and Donna Gibbs
John and Sandra Good
Pierre Gouvin
Jay and Elizabeth Gowell
John and Janet Grant
Christina and Jeffrey Gravdahl
Hannah Graves
Dan and Mary Gregory
Katherine Grimes
Patrick and Lauren Haley
West Bay View Foundation
Patti Young and Paul Hamilton

Kari Hamon
Derek Hansen
J. William W Harsch Esq.
Jack and Brenda Hawkins
Steve and Mary Heath
David and Sarah Hehman
Edward Holland
Alexander and Lizzie Holtan
Carol Coleman and Tor Holtan
Sheila Haggerty and Paul Housberg
Greg and Lynne Hunter
Andrew and Kathleen Huntley-Robertson
Connie Pemmer and Doug Jacobs
Darcy Magratten and James Estes
Jay Janov
Jennifer Keegan and Mel Jiganti
Brenna and Jeff Jordan
The Kazan and Herman Family Trust
Mr. Derek Keller
Peter R and Cynthia K Kellogg Foundation
Susie Matthews and Jim Kennedy
Victoria and John Kerr
Trice Kilroy
Betty R Kinder
Jennifer Kinzel
Kirkland and Ellis LLP
Jean and Larry Lajoie
Abigail R Lambert
Harry and Anne Lane
Christiana Lazo and Gustavo Gonzalez
Jack and Lisa LeFort Jr.
Patricia Lercara
Peter Liberati

Eileen and Patrick Muldoon
Bill and May Munger
Conanicut Marine Services
Catherine, Hope and Hannah Murphy
Kara McKarney and Nicholas Murray
Robert and Meg Myles
Emily Nicholas
Mr. Nick Nicholson
Jeff and Adrienne Nickol
Paul and Elizabeth Nuti
Stephen O'Brien
David and Francine O'Connor
Jan C O'Malley
Daniel and Donna O'Neill
Tim and Lynne Palmer
Jess Geier and TJ Pascalides
Sam and Fred Pease
Elizabeth Peimer
Duncan Pendlebury
Kate and Aidan Petrie
Dianne Piccoli
David and Elizabeth Pignolet
John and Susan Maffei Plowden
Joan and Jim Porter
Chris and Candy Powell
Chick and Alexis Pyle
Jay and Marisa A Quinn
R.A.M. Construction
Constance Rainone
Robert Raymond
Sheila Reilly
Matthew and Julia Reinhardt
Barbara Pease Renner
Mary Reynolds
Rhode Island Foundation
Sarah and Craig Richardson
Mr. David Richter
Martha Richter Smith and Elizabeth Richter
Barbara Ritter
Vince and Kristina Rivers
Robb and Lynn Roach
Robert ‘Nick’ Roach, Jr
Katherine Roberts
Suzanne Rodriguez
Marla Romash
Stuart and Wendy Ross
Edward and Devi Ross
Juliana Wilson and Tom Ruggieri

Mary Pat Ryan
Mark Rymill
Robert and Terri Salk
Nancy Louise Sall
Bobbi and Nicholas Schaus
Sally and Peter Schott
Meghan Schubert
Mark and Cory Serti
Katja Serti
Merrill Sherman
Kate and Larry Shuh
Idanna F Smith
Pebbles Wadsworth and Christian Smith
Spindrift Family Foundation
Frank A Stasiowski
Hannah Swett
Holly Swett
Joan Swift
Tucker Sylvia
Priscilla Szneke and Louis Mariorenzi
Kim and James Taylor
Dick and Cindy Trask
Pat and Tim Tuff
Nancy VandeVanter and Geoffrey Turner
United Way of Rhode Island
van Beuren Charitable Foundation
Sergio and Erica Vinelli
Karyn Watkins
Amy Weatherbee
Casandra West
Westchester Community Foundation
Jennifer Walsh and Bernard M Wharton
Victoria S. Arrigoni and Austin Whitman
Amanda Wilder
Kathleen Brown and Peter Wilson
Christi Work and Suzanne O'Donnell
Kate and James Wright
Natalie and Rod Wright
Jess and Dan Wurzbacher
Nancy and William Zeitler
Suzanne Gagnon and Steve Zimniski

Deb and Michael Lichtenstein
Anne Livingston
Barbara Lundy
Bob and Kristen Maccini
Justine Maciel
Mary and John Madden
Mansions and Manors, Inc
Mike Marshall
David and Janice Martin
Jamie and Kris Matthews
John and Shawn Mayers
William and Glenna McAffrey
Jen McCann
Renee and James H McCooey
Jeannie and Gerry McDonough
Aria McElhenney
Christina and Jerry McIntyre
McQuades Market
Mary Meagher (in honor of Sharon Mooney)
Petra and Ken Meyer
Lois Migneault
Martha Milot
Jane S Miner
Richard R Miner
Betsy and Clarke Moody
Alice K Moorhead

10 CONANICUT ISLAND SAILING FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2022
“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

CONNIE ISLAND SAILING FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2022

11
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.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Hannah M. Swett, President
Bob Maccini, Vice President
Mike Marshall, Secretary
Tor Holtan, Treasurer
Jim Bryer
Chris Cannon
Sean Doyle
Mike Hill
Jen McCann
Meg Myles
Cory Sertl
Erica Vinelli
Jess Wurzbacher

ADVISORY BOARD
Jack LeFort
Suzy Leech
Susie Matthews
Robert Salk

2022 PARTNERS
Fab Newport
Jamestown Outdoors
Jamestown Public Schools
Movement Education Outdoors
Sophia Academy
TPG Marinas
Town of Jamestown
URI GSO, Shark Camp

STAFF
Haley Barber, Program Director
Ian Bryer, Educator
Fiona Christie, Home School Director
Phoebe Livingston, Operations and Development Coordinator
Heather Moore, Educator
Meg Myles, Executive Director
Katja Sertl, Social Media
Theo Simmons, Administrative Assistant & Educator