

25TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN



BUILDING THE
FUTURE,
TOGETHER

The Anniversary Campaign
celebrates 25 years of learning,
exploration and community
building, and charts the course to
a future of even greater impact.

The Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation (CISF) is celebrating 25 years of learning, leadership development, innovation, exploration, and community-building by strengthening its commitment to Jamestown, where it started, and expanding opportunity to those now unable to access Rhode Island's vast coastal resources.

Established in 2000 by sailor Bradford N. Swett, CISF is a nonprofit education organization that uses boating and hands-on learning as platforms for positive youth development. For more than two decades, CISF has been a resource and asset to the Jamestown community on Conanicut Island. With a mission to inspire and engage people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities around the coastal environment, CISF is nurturing leadership and coastal stewards, providing experiential learning that lasts a lifetime.

Rhode Island is the Ocean State. Our community on Conanicut Island is framed by more than 400 miles of Rhode Island coastline and vast marine resources. This is our shared home, place of work and venue for recreation and escape. One that provides an incredible environment to build community, support the next generation, and protect our incredible natural resources.



MISSION

CISF's mission is to inspire and engage people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities with the coastal environment through boating & education.

VISION

A future shaped by generations connected to the water and our environment.

CORE VALUES



OPPORTUNITY

Foster competence and confidence on the water and in the marine environment by offering affordable access to educational opportunities on Narragansett Bay.



EDUCATION

Deliver environmental and science-based programming, with a focus on fun and hands-on learning, nurturing curiosity and building competency on, off and around the water.



STEWARDSHIP

Through education and personal impact awareness, create generations of informed marine and coastal stewards.



POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

By creating a strong sense of community where youth feel connected to others through shared experiences, they are given agency to explore, learn and grow. Sailing is utilized as a platform to provide confidence-building, leadership, and teamwork opportunities.

'Being outside, and finding bugs and stuff, it's amazing! Once you go outside into nature you get a different perspective of outside.' -Lucy, 3rd grade



PREPARING YOUTH TO SUCCEED ON THE WATER & BEYOND

CISF's programs are rooted in the belief that all paths lead to the ocean.

CISF believes in a holistic, community-based approach to youth programming. One that is inclusive, adaptive and focused on providing teamwork and leadership through experiential learning. Boating and our coastal environment create opportunities for problem solving through inquiry driven, hands-on learning that immerse students in science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) concepts.

We create positive experiences in nature, whether that means climbing a tree, sailing a boat, counting invasive species in the marsh, or digging in the garden. Giving kids time off from technology to explore, learn, create, and interact with nature is a critical component of mental health and well-being. CISF couples experiential learning with intentional, social-emotional learning (SEL) to inspire a love of learning and care for the environment in ALL students. Skills developed as a result of STEAM literacy and SEL contribute to critical thinking skills, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity for all students.



— “
CISF provides inspiring project-based learning that nurtures creativity, problem solving, risk-taking, personal accomplishment, collaboration and ‘aha’ moments.’

-Jane Mitchell, Kindergarten Teacher

— ”



CISF provides after-school, in-school, home-school, and vacation day programs, a summer camp, and field trip programs that provide youth with coastal connections and foster an attachment to the environment.

CISF is committed to providing programs to people of all abilities and backgrounds. Programs are free or subsidized and financial aid and scholarships are available to ensure participant accessibility.



OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Through the 25th Anniversary Campaign, CISF will be empowered to build upon past success, create greater

capacity and chart and even more impactful future providing transformative educational and life skills to young people and a space for people of all ages to learn and thrive.

We celebrate this anniversary with a passionate and committed staff, a dedicated Board of Directors, and an enthusiastic group of volunteers and donors prepared to build a foundation for the next 25 years.

The 25th Anniversary Campaign will:

- Establish a sustainably designed permanent home at Fort Getty Park comprised of an office and educational center, experiential outdoor learning space and workshop with boat storage.
- Provide continuity of space, water and electricity, making CISF's programs accessible and impactful year-round, and enabling the team to meet the goals of the strategic plan.
- Finance continued annual educational and operational activities for 3 years (during the campaign & first months open).
- Provide expanded programming to youth in Jamestown and from across Rhode Island.
- Deepen the connection to coastal resources and multi-generational learning for the Jamestown community.
- Provide financial resources for future programmatic and operational needs of the organization.



THE ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

The goals for the 25th Anniversary Campaign are visionary yet attainable and efficient, addressing two key objectives over the 3-year project timeline.

With support from the community, CISF aims to raise:

\$3,300,000 - Coastal Campus - Funding will support the campaign and campus design, planning, permitting and construction of the campus buildings, site preparation, landscaping, furnishings, and equipment.

\$1,450,000 - Experience & Education - Funding will support regular program and operational needs traditionally covered by the annual fund in 2024 through opening (and all of 2026), in addition to new and expanded programming development and preparation.



Coastal Campus

The envisioned campus will provide safe, year-round facilities for youth, staff and the community.

Classroom & Office Building: Wet lab, classrooms, youth cubbies, offices, bathrooms.

Experiential Education Space: Defined activity area, tent, community gathering space. This space provides room for growth, anticipating expected increase in demand for programming.

Workshop & Storage: Gear racks and storage for boats and program supplies, work benches for projects and programs.

Who supports CISF and is helping fund the Anniversary Campaign?

CISF is supported by parents and grandparents of program participants, Jamestown citizens at large, the Town and State, and local and national grant funders. These committed donors have provided the backbone of campaign support which continues to be augmented by new personal, institutional, and public contributions.

Experience & Education

Campaign support will enable CISF to sustain current programming through the campaign and project, build out new programs and offer more services to the community.

Operational Support: in addition to earned revenue from programs, annual support for current programming, operations and the campaign throughout the project and first months open (Jan 1, 2024 – December 31, 2026).

Expanded Jamestown School Programming: Onsite CISF educator providing support to all Jamestown public schools, going beyond traditional teaching methods with hands-on projects that support curriculum (K through 8th Grade).

Adult Programming & Community Space: Enhanced sailing opportunities and topical workshops on everything from CPR to splicing and engine maintenance; space for group activities.

Increased On-Water Access: Dedicated weekend sailing instruction and rental opportunities, sail boats, fishing and more for people of all ages.

Expanded Camp Programming: Increased summer camp capacity (up to 25% from current 600 served), scholarship opportunities, and types of sessions offered.

Increased Impact: Consistently improve the quality of youth programs and aligning youth activities with established standards to increase impact. This is done through program quality assessment, data collection, impact reporting, and tying educational standards such as Next Generation Science Standards, Ocean Literacy Principles, and the Collaborative for Academic Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) to CISF programs.



— “
“CISF continues to be a child-focused, creative partner with the schools. The leadership at CISF asks the right questions and listens to our answers. They create programs that address the specific needs we verbalize. The children in the Jamestown community reap the benefits of the work done by CISF.” ~Erica Dickson, Jamestown Schools, Director of Student Service
— ” —



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25th Anniversary

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**View the
CISF Video
HERE!**

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GET TO KNOW CISF!

Whether through an afterschool program, summer camp or career exploration, the impact of time spent with CISF reaches far beyond the shores of the Narragansett Bay.



1,168 invasive Green Crabs & 92 species were collected over 8 weeks of Sea Adventure Camp!



Over \$27,000 in scholarships were awarded in 2024, providing experiences that otherwise would not have been possible.



600 campers participated in Sea Adventure Camp in 2024 (the first camp in 2012 hosted 60 youth).



20,000 hours of camp instruction by dedicated staff over 12 years.



More than 400 people enjoyed CISF's Free Sailing Program sponsored by Lila Delman Compass.

CISF supports program participants with physical disabilities, neurodiverse and learning differences.



CISF has provided a supporting educator in the Jamestown School system to help with curriculum relevant projects for nearly a decade at no cost to Jamestown Schools, students, staff, or taxpayers.



62 after-school & home-school programs and 10 vacation day programs were delivered.



Engagement = Improved Retention
More than 50% of all youth (and 90% of home-school youth) participate in multiple programs offered by CISF.



Opportunity & Access: CISF x YouthBuild Providence students got the experience of a lifetime sailing on a classic yacht



STEM Projects: Home-school students learned about ocean engineering



Sharing Knowledge: Program Director, Haley Barber, taught a class at URI sharing her experience about Place-Based Education with students majoring in Outdoor Education (URI is one of four higher-ed institutions in the country offering this major!).



Barber also led a professional development session for Jamestown teachers about how to teach outside.

Added two new programs for high school students - a home school high school sailing class and TIDES (Teens Investigating Diverse Experiences at Sea), a program for Jamestown students who attend North Kingstown and/or Narragansett High Schools.



CISF offered leadership development through internships for three Jamestown youth



JAMESTOWN PROGRAMS

CAMP

Jamestown Sea Adventure Camp is a cornerstone of CISF programming. It has grown from 60 youth participating in 2012 to over 600 in 2023! Children ages 4 – 16 explore the saltmarsh, learn to sail, make new friends, play games, and generally enjoy the outdoor environment provided by Fort Getty. Activities at the heart of Sea Adventure Camp are: Sailing, Marsh & Coastal Exploration, Fishing, Leadership, and Gardening.

IN-SCHOOL SUPPORT

CISF's partnership with Jamestown Public Schools is one of our most important. Program Director Haley Barber has worked alongside Jamestown teachers and students during the school day since 2016. Annual, stand out programs include the following:

Kindergarten Science – Guiding Education in Math and Science Network (GEMS-NET) curriculum, like 'materials in motion' and other topics.

Worm Wednesdays – Students in Grades K-4 are engaged around food waste and composting leftovers with the resident worms in CISF's two worm composting bins reside in the school's greenhouse. 7th and 8th Grade Creek Support – Students at

Lawn School measure temperature, salinity, water flow, and participate in a variety of additional experiential projects.

Outdoor Learning – CISF provides teachers with educational support within outdoor learning settings, including assistance with projects and creation of activities.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Sailing and land-based school year programs get youth into the coastal environment, where they can explore, learn science through fun activities, and gain confidence. "Classic" CISF afterschool programs include: Sailing, Kayaking, Backyard Explorers, Jr. Naturalist Training, Outdoor Survival Skills, K-2 Nature Explorers, Fishing.

VACATION DAY PROGRAMS & FIELD TRIPS

Both vacation day programs and field trips have a singular focus and are approximately three hours long. Subject matters are science and STEAM-based. Typical programs are: STEM Building Challenges, Biodiversity, Invasive Species Count, Ecosystems and Watersheds, Outdoor Survival Skills, Sailing.

JAMESTOWN PROGRAMS



HOME SCHOOL

CISF's homeschool program draws students from across the state. CISF educators have created two sections of homeschool – one for youth ages 5-7 years old, and another for youth in grades 3-8. These groups meet twice a week in the spring and fall over two, five-week sessions. Each session has a different theme such as Engineering, Natural Science, Sailing; and include topics like ROV's, Weather, Marine Science, Jr. Nature Explorers (ages 5-7), and Coastal Citizens (Grades 3-8).

TIDES

Teens Investigating Diverse Experiences at Sea (TIDES) motivates and reengages the population of Jamestown high school students who meet any of the following criteria: were previously involved with CISF; have truancy issues; are disinterested in school or are challenged in academic settings. These students are provided a safe space with opportunities be outside and active in nature through experiences at Fort Getty and on mini field trips that introduces them to the multitude of career pathways in Rhode Island's Blue Economy.

OCEAN STATE CITIZENS

New in 2024, this program for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders teaches marine science through the lens of climate change in RI. In addition to the Lawn School in Jamestown, the following schools participate:

- PVD Preparatory Charter School (Providence)
- Sophia Academy (Providence)
- Davisville Middle School (Kingston)



Why is experiential learning important?

When students participate in hands-on learning, they gain a better understanding of the material, broader view of the world and an appreciation of community. Experiential learning engages students' emotions, enhancing their knowledge, skills and insight into their own interests, passions, and values. Playing an active role in the learning process can lead to students experiencing greater gratification in learning.



OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Through partnerships and collaborations with organizations and schools who serve typically marginalized and underserved populations, CISF offers a variety of activities, experiences, and opportunities for these youth. From exploring the marsh, to kayaking, sailing, and our Marine Trades Career Exploration program, CISF is committed to providing an equitable, safe, supportive environment to all.

Marine Trades Career Exploration

This program is designed to help high school youth achieve a greater understanding of the opportunities available to them in Rhode Island's workforce, to ignite their interest in the marine trades, and develop skills and contacts that will help them in their future careers in the growing Blue Economy.

What is the Blue Economy?



In Rhode Island, we define it as "the sustainable use of the ocean to create a resilient economy and good paying jobs". This includes tourism and recreation, sustainable fishing and aquaculture, marine trades and ocean tech and innovation. The state plan highlights investing in early-learning education efforts (K-8) and high school that provide all RI Youth with tangible, impactful experiences on the water.

ADDITIONAL OUTREACH & OFF-ISLAND PROGRAMMING

- Bay Day & Earth Day Community Events
- Free Sailing
- Kayaking
- Fishing

All of CISF's programs provide access, education, exploration, and experiences on the water, at the shoreline, and with businesses that comprise the state's Blue Economy. Programs span all stages of development to provide age-appropriate learning that connect to coastal and marine ecosystems.

CISF TEAM

Meg Myers, *Executive Director*
Haley Barber, *Program Director*
Ian Bryer, *Educator*
Fiona Christie, *Home School Director*
Phoebe Livingston, *Development Associate*
Heather Moore, *Educator*
Rachel Bryer, *Social Media*
Theo Simmons, *Administrative Assistant & Educator*

3 of 8

Core Staff
are former
program
participants

85%

of Camp
Counselors
are former
campers

Thanks to the continued public-private partnership with the Town of Jamestown, CISF is able to operate from a truly magnificent location at Fort Getty which provides access to the ocean and a variety of ecosystems that provide endless educational opportunities.

Each of these distinct ecosystems is vital to Jamestown's coastal health, and the healthy exploration and understanding nurtured in our youth.

The 41-acre Town-owned park includes:

- Fort Ruins
- Public Boat Ramp & Dock
- Kit Wright Walking Trail
- Wildlife Observation Platform
- Views of Jamestown Bridge & West Passage

And soon, the new CISF Campus!

WHERE WE OPERATE



CISF & SUSTAINABILITY

People, planet and purpose. Sustainability is at the core of CISF's mission, vision and programming. Our connection to the natural world and service to the community shape all that we do. Our sustainability ethos is broad, as we envision a space that is environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

ENVIRONMENT

Our impact on the community goes beyond location and mission. It is also imperative that CISF be a good global citizen and do our part to minimize our environmental impact. In designing the campus, a number of initiatives will consider:

Site Development – Being mindful of proximity to our greatest resource - the coastal environment - the development of the site will thoughtfully include drainage and rain gardens to mitigate downstream impact and new tanked septic.

Energy – Insulation against the elements, solar energy and mechanical systems designed to reduce energy requirements.

Conscientiously Sourced Materials – Including FSC Certified woods, recycled and composite materials.

Education & Engagement – CISF programming - rooted in the belief that all paths lead to the ocean - builds knowledge, respect and care for the environment and natural resources.



SOCIAL & CULTURAL In creating the new campus, CISF's goal is to provide equitable access to the Jamestown waterfront, coastal education and leadership training and to foster community connections and learning. Serving people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities is intrinsic to our approach, and the new facilities will enable CISF to provide even more meaningful experiences for everyone who interacts with us, contributing to the fabric of our community and creating an inclusive environment and culture.

FINANCIAL

The capital project we are embarking on not only supports enhanced community experiences but also provides for the financial sustainability of CISF. Embracing a business mindset that includes good governance and risk management, and a community mindset that leverages resources and relationships, CISF will be set up for long-term sustainability and success.

TESTIMONIALS

We are grateful to have served the Jamestown and surrounding RI community for nearly 25 years. Hear from our program participants, parents and collaborating partners about the impact CISF is making. With your support, imagine the places we will go!

“Our involvement with CISF has helped expand our curriculum and helps students make connections between what they are learning in school, and how it connects to the greater world...Having studied forces and movement, students--thanks to CISF--were able to use the force of the wind to propel themselves in Narragansett Bay, and, at the same time, reflected back to local currents. All students had the opportunity to sail, analyze impact of sail design and trim, and evaluate how to best use the force of the wind and local currents...Not only does this collaboration connect students with the community, but it also helps build community within the school...building teams of engineers, thinkers, and future scientists, engineers, and citizens who will make an impact in their communities.”

~Charlene Tuttle, Grade 6 Science Teacher, Lawn Avenue School
2019 Rhode Island Teacher of the Year, 2010 Presidential Awardee

“This program really improved my mental health. It gave me something to look forward to every week.”
~YouthBuild Student & Marine Trades Career Exploration Participant

“I am always humbled by the big picture work of CISF, how you are always growing and evolving, and how you empower kids. I am so lucky to be part of the Jamestown community and know my two will have/already have had so many opportunities and experiences that will help them be aware global citizens which is why I keep thinking of you when planning for my other 72 'kids' that I see who don't have these opportunities.” ~Parent/Teacher

‘I love teaching others the importance of taking care of our earth.’ ~5th Grader

We are a military family and heard about the CISF programs in schools and summer camps. The idea of our kids being able to participate in these programs was a significant reason we chose to live in Jamestown!! You are why this town is so amazing! Thank you! ~Parent

The value of unstructured yet supervised play with peers is immeasurable- the time spent in the woods building forts or poking around on the beach at Fort Getty fosters creative play, leadership skills, and collaboration with peers.... and just is plain old fun! ~Parent

“I taught my parents how to tie an 8-knot last night.... With pasta!” ~ Sea Adventure Camper

CISF INTERIM STRATEGIC PLAN - SUMMARY

In early 2025, a Board designated task force designed a strategic plan to guide the organization through 2025 and 2026. These two years represent a transitional period for CISF as the organization celebrates 25 years and prepares to construct and occupy a purpose-built coastal campus at Ft. Getty. With an updated vision and core values, CISF leadership established a series of programmatic, administrative, and fiscal goals to support the realization of its mission and vision.

Much of CISF's current success lies in its organic, grass-roots growth over time. It now seeks to streamline processes, develop a realistic and scalable business model, deepen programmatic impacts, and continue to deliver programs that are mission-centric. Equipped with a dedicated staff and Board of Directors, CISF will use this time to manage their current activities through the construction period and beyond by developing financial and marketing tools to guide new program development, and to increase knowledge and expertise to meet the needs of the evolving operation.

Administrative Goals

CISF is a small, nimble organization that has grown organically. With the promise of new resources provided by the coastal campus, now is the time to level up the administrative operation to meet future needs and community expectations while maintaining their organizational culture.

1. Develop operational plans for the construction period, pre-opening and opening of the new campus.
2. Formalize staff review, compensation and professional development.
3. Strengthen expectations and participation by the Board of Directors.
4. Maintain and nurture the positive relationship with the Town of Jamestown.

Program Goals

CISF currently provides robust programming for grades K-12 youth on Jamestown and across Rhode Island. Additionally, there is limited adult programming, predominantly focused on sailing-related activities. CISF will use the next two years to refine current offerings and develop new opportunities that are both impactful and generate revenue to support the organization. CISF will adhere to a 'quality over quantity' mindset.

1. Manage the core business through the construction period and beyond, maximizing impact and revenue.
2. Plan and develop new programs during construction to launch upon campus completion.
3. Conduct a capital GAP analysis for the new campus.

Fiscal Goals

The coastal campus will increase the operational funding needs of the organization. Over the next two years, CISF will build and diversify earned and philanthropic revenue to meet the future budget requirements.

1. Align program financials and funding strategies to maximize profitability and sustainability.
2. Increase and diversify philanthropic revenue, including sponsorship and program underwriting opportunities.
3. Increase and diversify program revenue through new programs and expanded capacity.



Thank you for considering a gift to the 25th Anniversary Campaign!

We are thrilled to have you by our side as we celebrate 25 years of learning, exploration and community development, and chart the path to an even brighter future. We are grateful for the generous support that makes creating a permanent home for impactful, year-round programming possible. The following are a few ways we would like to honor your support.

Donor Recognition

Donors to the Anniversary Campaign will be recognized in the year of their gift online and in the annual report. Additionally, gifts of \$5,000 and above will be honored in a perpetual manner on the new campus, the design of which is in development.

Naming Opportunities & Sponsorships

CISF offers a variety of opportunities to make your mark while supporting the 25th Anniversary Campaign and vision for the future of the organization. Whether as an individual, foundation or corporate sponsor, the spaces below are offered:

Campus

Classroom & Office Building (Secured)	\$1,000,000
Workshop & Storage (Secured)	\$500,000
Outdoor Education Space	\$250,000

Classroom & Office Building

Multi-Use Room	\$200,000
Wetlab (Secured)	\$100,000
Classroom 1 (Secured)	\$100,000
Classroom 2	\$100,000
Work Room (Secured)	\$50,000
Office (Secured)	\$25,000
Foraging/Teaching Kitch (Secured)	\$25,000
West Terrace (Secured)	\$25,000
East Terrace (Secured)	\$25,000
Display Case (Secured)	\$15,000
Cubbies (Secured)	\$15,000
Flagpole (Secured)	\$10,000
Bike Racks	\$10,000
Step Plaque	\$2,500

Workshop & Storage Building

Workshop	\$100,000
Storage	\$50,000
Day Storage	\$25,000
Outdoor Storage	\$15,000

Boats* (# Opportunities Available)

Sonar (1)	\$25,000
J/22 (1)	\$25,000
Support Boat (2, 1 Secured)	\$25,000
Hobie (7, 1 Secured)	\$15,000
Wētā Trimaran	\$15,000
O'Pen Skiffs (6)	\$10,000
Kayak (10)	\$2,500

*Boats are named for the lifetime of the vessel with CISF