

### Inspiring a Brighter Future for Our Coast:

## The Center for Coastal Protection and Restoration

In 2020, we launched an idea for a new gathering place on the coast that would lead the way for a healthy and sustainable future for our coastal environment and our coastal communities. Thanks to the encouragement and enthusiasm of supporters like you, we are now poised to establish the Center for Coastal Protection and Restoration, with just a \$500,000 funding gap before breaking ground in 2023. Thank you for your support!

We've grown a lot since 2020, and our needs and plans have grown with us. Based on lessons learned during the pandemic, we've adjusted our plans to include more outdoor classrooms, flexible workspaces, and a robust communications studio that will allow our education programs to engage people in person and remotely. This flagship education center will expand the Federation's ability to protect and restore our coast, reaching over three million people by 2030.

Thank you for sharing our vision, and for being among the first champions of this new community resource.

Campaign Cabinet Chair

Toole Mille

Founder and Executive Director



#### PROGRESS AT THE CENTER

Your early support has enabled us to get started on site. We've already constructed a living shoreline to protect the site erosion and provide oyster and wetland habitat,

installed a nature trail, and begun preparing the site for construction. We're also working closely with Carteret County on the public park and boat ramp next door.

Even more exciting, final designs are complete, including environmentally-friendly parking and roadways, and we are gathering construction quotes from contractors in preparation to break ground in 2023!

"It felt really good working outdoors and sharing the experience with my peers. This was the first time I ever planted anything like that."

> --Damarius Youth Volunteer

#### **NEW AND EXPANDED PROGRAMS**

We're developing and launching new programs to engage our communities through the Center's outdoor classrooms and resilience demonstrations, Education and Event Center, education classroom, and Communications Studio:

- Connecting thousands of students to the environment through hands-on and virtual learning, and building new relationships with groups including the Boys and Girls Clubs and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Hosting a U.S. Dept. of Defense Resilience Coordinator to advance conservation projects that support the environment and our military installations.
- Removing over 100 vessels and tons of debris littering our coast, and restoring five acres of oyster reef and over a half mile of living shoreline.
- Supporting communities with a new oyster mariculture loan program and a new Coastal Leadership Institute to train local leaders to implement resilience improvements
- Launching new partnerships with WRAL and WECT, while continuing to grow our news service CoastalReview.Org.







## Ready to Take Flight!



Thanks to your support, we are just \$500,000 away from meeting our fundraising goal of \$7.75M! We'll announce a new matching challenge in November to help close that gap.

### THANK YOU TO OUR CAMPAIGN CABINET

CHAIRS: Charles Meeker | Olivia B. Holding | Brad Stanback

EXECUTIVE TEAM: Kenneth Chestnut | Kyle Elliott | Mary Katherine

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