



Dear Jo-Ann,

**THANK YOU...
FOR AN AMAZING
NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH!!!**

As the calendar turns to February, we're excited by the momentum for mentoring all of you helped generate as we celebrated National Mentoring Month!

We celebrated a new space, held our annual Frozen Clam Obstacle Plunge, reached out to the community to find new volunteer mentors, got current mentors together to discuss their experiences, saw countless social media posts in support of mentoring, and joined our colleagues from around the country for the National Mentoring Summit.

It was a very busy month...but because of the contributions you made and the excitement you helped generate, more kids will experience life with a mentor.

Check out some of the highlights...

THE FROZEN CLAM OBSTACLE PLUNGE



We kicked off National Mentoring Month with our traditional New Year's Day Fundraiser, the Frozen Clam Obstacle Plunge. Thanks to the deep freeze we couldn't quite stick to tradition. We held the obstacle course portion of the event but were kept from the water, mainly because the entire bay was iced over. We returned at the end of the month to let everyone make-up the Frozen Clam Dip portion of the event. With the help of our host Ryan McGowan of Laid-back Fitness, all of our sponsors, and everyone who braved the frigid temperatures the combined event still raised \$6,000 in support of youth mentoring.

MENTOR Rhode Island's NEW DIGS



Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian, and Coastway Community Bank's Jana Planka helped the MENTOR Rhode Island staff cut the ribbon on our new headquarters at 2065 Warwick Avenue. Coastway is a long-time supporter of mentoring and offered us a virtually no cost lease for office space adjacent to their Warwick Avenue branch. Our friends at The Washington Trust Company furnished our new space.

NBC 10 CARES CALL CENTER



Our friends at NBC 10 did an awesome story about our organization and followed it up with a chance to be the focus of a 10 Cares Call Center. It allowed anyone interested in mentoring to reach out to us and ask questions or start the application process. Nearly 50 people connected with us as a result of this opportunity and many are starting the process of becoming a mentor.

GETTING THE WORD OUT



January saw all kinds of great expressions of support for mentoring. From Congressman Jim Langevin to our friends at Centreville Bank, who put out a series of profiles of their employees who mentor. You can check that out [here!](#)

THE NATIONAL MENTORING SUMMIT





The National Mentoring Summit was a chance to get together with mentoring practitioners from around the country. It included Capitol Hill Day which allowed us to visit with our Congressional Delegation and update them on mentoring in Rhode Island and the initiatives they can support federally to strengthen the mentoring movement. The Summit also includes workshops and learning opportunities so that we have the latest info about mentoring. This year one of our staff members, Christopher Margadonna, was selected to present a workshop at the Summit.

Happy National Mentoring Month,

The MENTOR Rhode Island team:

Jo-Ann, Sue, Pam, Nichole, Celeste, Cathy, Christopher, Darnell, & Marc

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