



CHEBEAGUE RECREATION CENTER & KIDS' PLACE

ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Our Mission is to provide the Chebeague Island community with recreational and educational opportunities that strengthen overall health and social connection to enhance lives and secure futures.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The CRC has expanded its operations to better serve the community. In the spring of 2024, the board created two newly defined roles in the front office, Caitlin Whetham as Managing Director and the full time Recreation Division Director, Bill McKenzie. Caitlin also continues as Acting Director of the Kids' Place (KP) division. Both divisions are thriving and benefit from sharing many resources.

The KP division has enriched its early learning curriculum and expanded service hours. Since making the organizational division more clear, the fundraising has gained strength.

Meanwhile, Bill and Caitlin have built on the legacy of the previous manager, Steve Auffant who set in motion many of the changes we see at the Rec today. We now have a dual division corporation with the KP and "the Rec", completed the transformation of the craft room into the Community Room, improved engagement in programming with a hallway TV monitor broadcasting photos & flyers, and empowered members to grow programs such as Pickleball and Mahjong. The Rec has expanded social/ educational events such as Dessert & Discussion, "Crafternoons", community events and collaborations with other non-profits.

Further, Bill has made the teen center more accessible with weekly hours, increased after school programming from two to four days/week, organized bi-weekly yoga classes, and offers tailored personal training in the upgraded fitness center. He has also expanded summer offerings as posted on our new website. The Rec is truly fitting its motto: *"A Place For Everyone"* and demonstrates investment in our greatest resource - people!



FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR: 2024 SUCCESSES

The CRC corporation developed a new website, ChebeagueRecreation.org, joined the Maine Association of Non-Profits, and is meeting higher standards in corporate management & governance.

Our August fundraiser BBQ “Come Together on the Field” raised the most ever through ticket sales, raffles and an auction, as did the Kids’ Place fundraising and the CRC annual appeal.

The Rec Division received a grant from The Recompense Fund with which we purchased new camp supplies, updated the Fitness Center with a Smith Cross Trainer, and got a sound system. The Recompense Grant funded the Kids’ Place to build a wonderful outdoor play yard for the children.

The CRC brought back the “Volunteer of the Year” award (not awarded since 2012) and presented it to Eliza Jane Adams who worked tirelessly on the board for three years expanding programs.

The CRC honored the 25th anniversary super donors who gave at least \$2,000 to commemorate the Center’s opening with a plaque that now hangs in the main hallway.

The 2024 Summer Camps served islanders and visitors with a record number of campers over 10 weeks. The Children’s Summer Theater show of “The Little Mermaid” was a resounding success.

In the Fall, the Recreation Division expanded its service to the year around families with four days of after school programming with our Recreation Director, Bill, and weekly teen nights.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Hackel, President

Anne Brenton, Secretary

Courtney Wilson, Treasurer

Norah Alper

DeeDee Anderson

Lindsay Anderson Doughty

Nancy Earnest

Elise Hood

John Layng

Kyle Legg

Kate McCarthy

John Messler

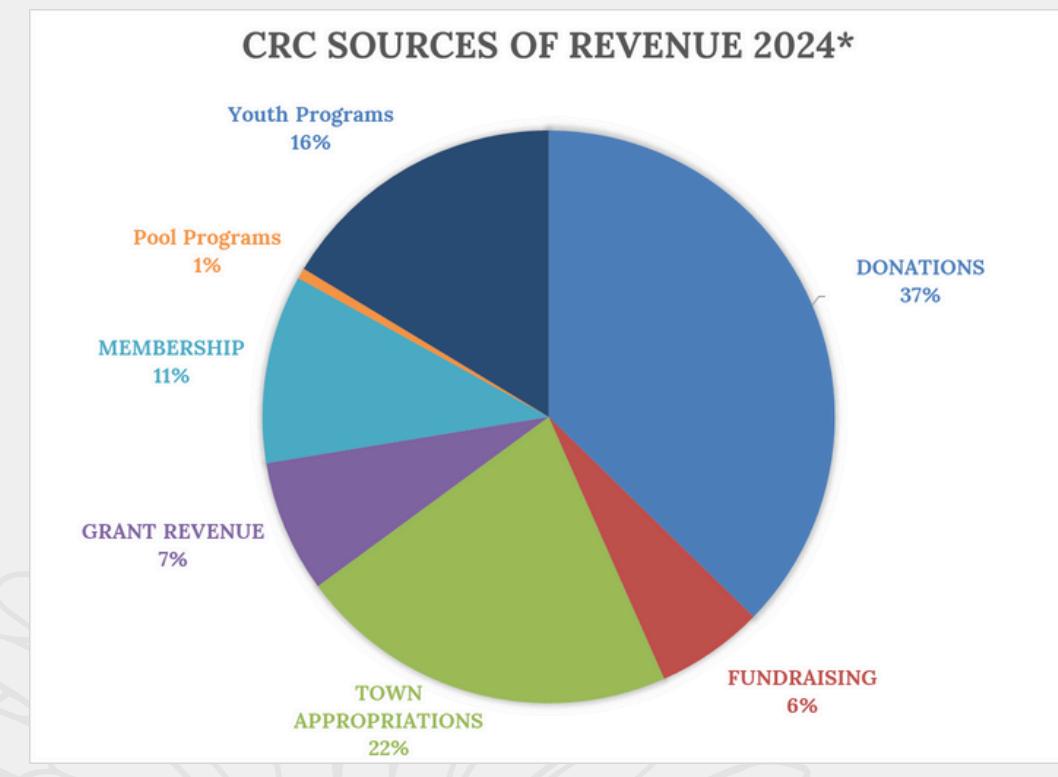
Brian Phipps

Jennifer Rent

Peter Rice

Steve Silin

SOURCES OF REVENUE



BASIC FINANCIALS

Donations: \$161,861

Total Revenue: \$316,473

Payroll: \$138,278

Total Expenses: \$286,015

Net Revenue: \$37,459

**Note: all financials are preliminary pending Review*

CAMPS SUCCESS

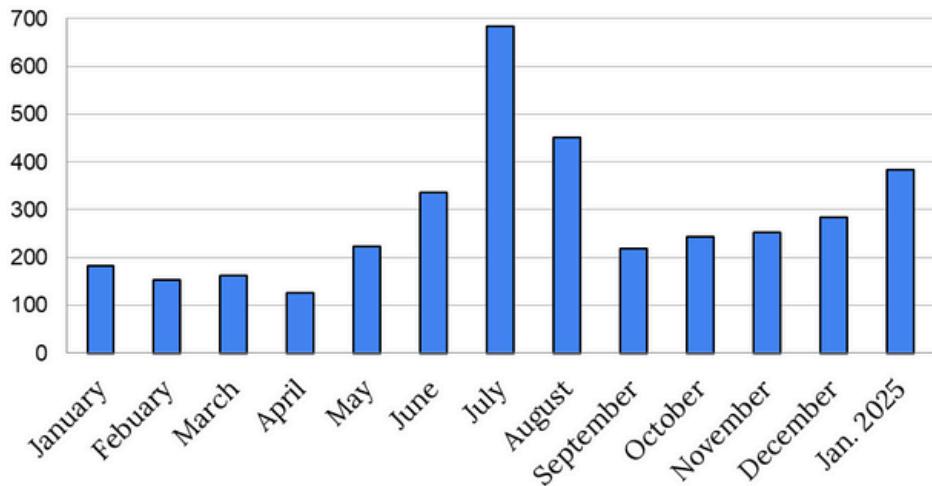
The 2024 summer camps not only better served the community over 10 weeks, but helped bring in critical revenue to the CRC. Each week, camps were offered Monday through Friday 9-noon for morning camps and noon-3pm for afternoon camps, with options for before and aftercare to help working families. Several camps were created in partnership with other organizations.

REC DIVISION CONTINUED...

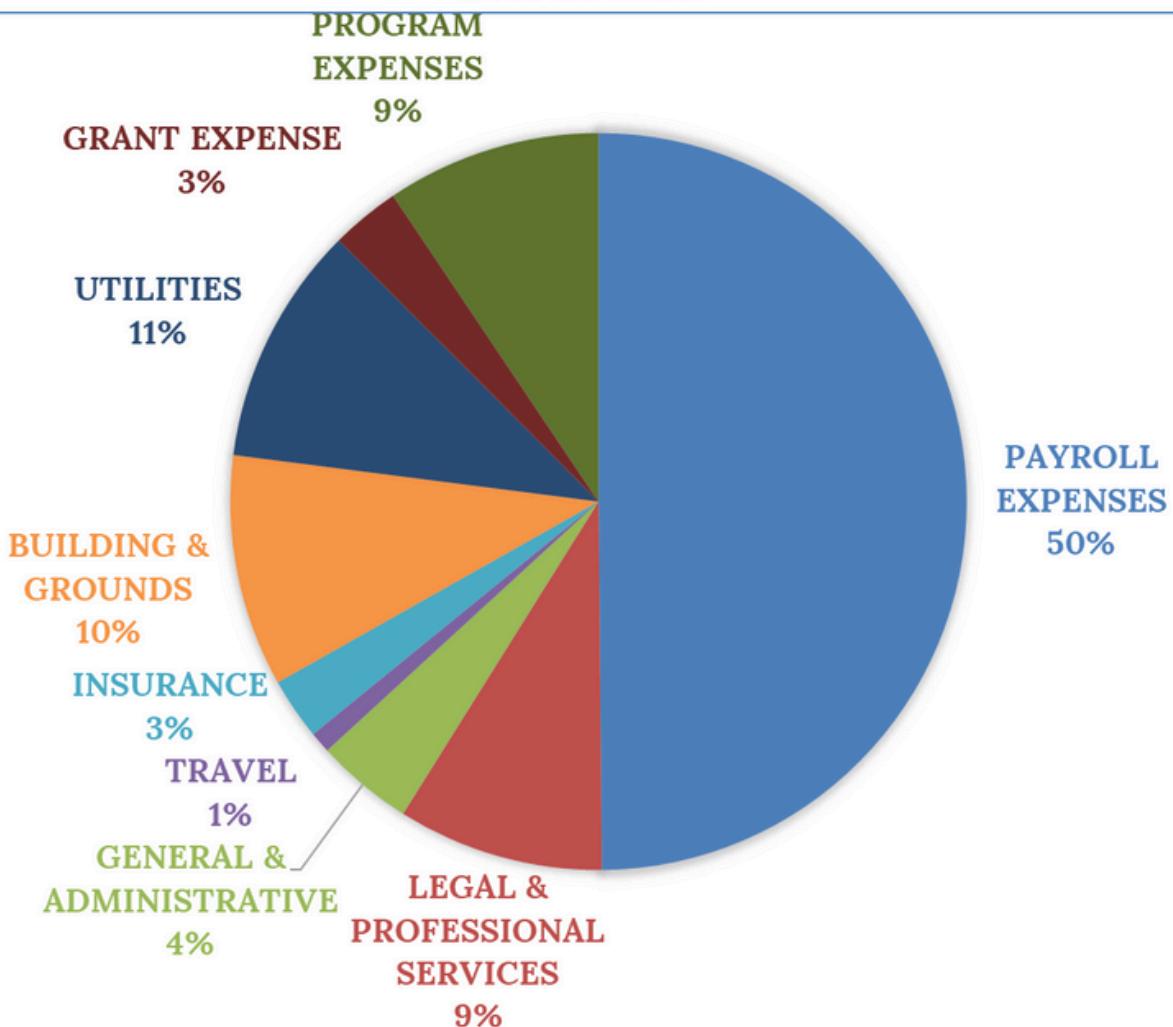
A COMPARATIVE LOOK

We had increasing numbers of visitors in 2024. We estimate that only about 40% of visitors sign in. These numbers do not include event and some program participation. A total of 3317 people signed in in 2024.

2024 Monthly Visitation by Number of Sign-ins

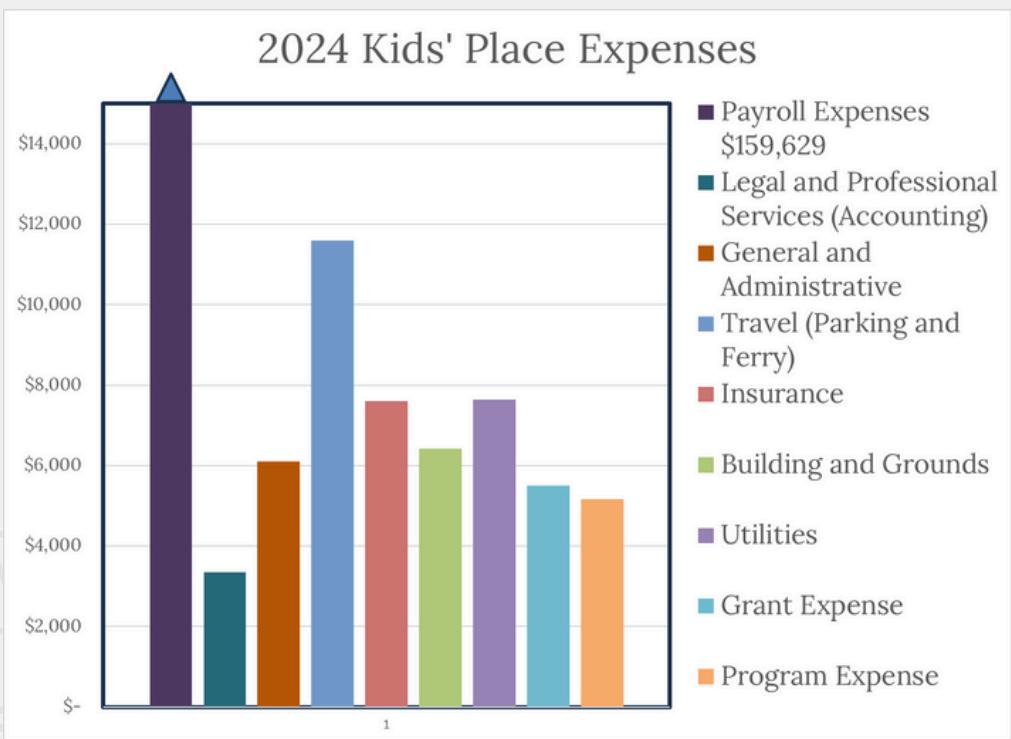


2024 CHEBEAGUE RECREATION OPERATING DIVISION EXPENSES



KIDS' PLACE DIVISION STATISTICS

EXPENDITURES



PEOPLE SERVED

OUTDOOR PLAY YARD UPGRADE!

Kids' Place Served 10 year-round and 7 visiting summer students in 2024. This impacted 7 year-round families.

Thanks to a grant from the Recompense Fund and volunteers, KP was able to greatly improve the outdoor play area, making it larger, safer, more dynamic, and more in line with our focus of outdoor learning. Fences were placed to increase the safe play area, a dry stream was installed as well as a sand play area, and tee pee play structure was built.

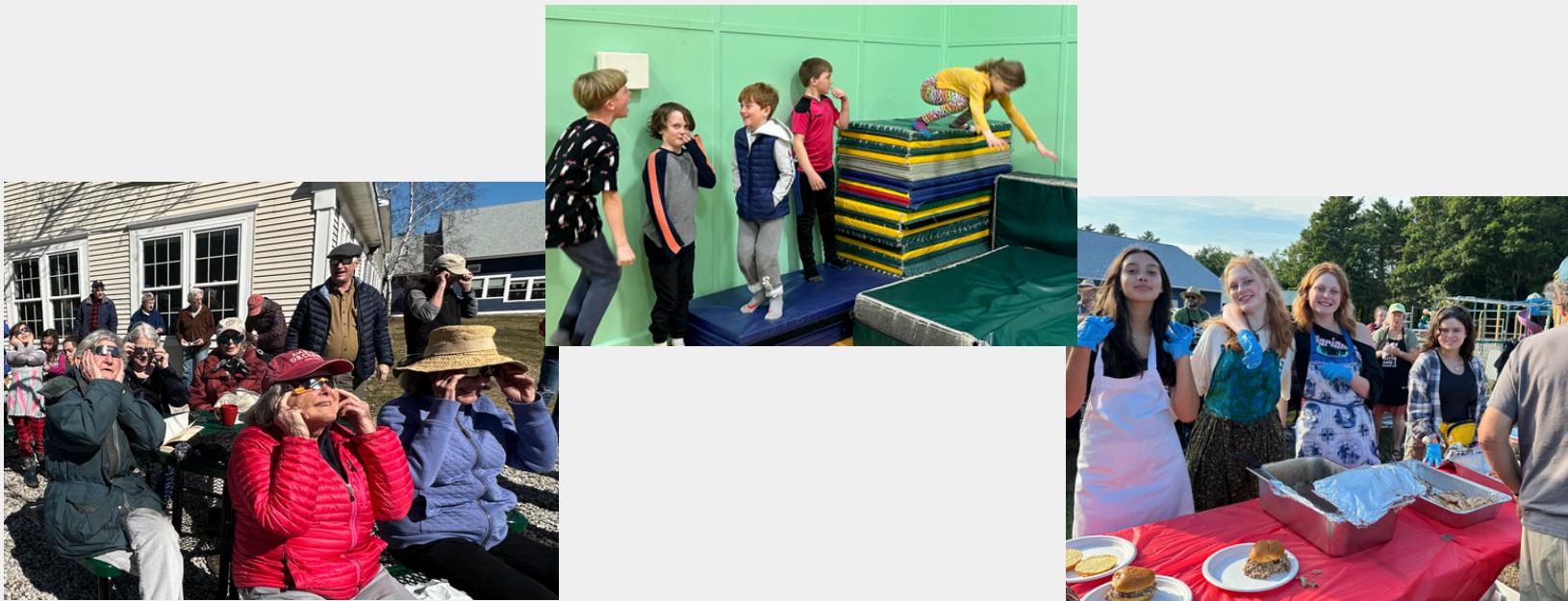
Kids' Place is led by two full-time teachers, Hayley Brennan and Jay Fuller, and two part-time teachers, Rozzie Read and Megan Munroe. Three of these teachers commute 4-5 days per week from the mainland. Thanks to our dedicated and wonderful teachers, our KP students are happy and thriving!



2024 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- Polar Plunge and Chili/Chowder/Soup Challenge
- Superbowl party
- Eclipse viewing prty
- Summer kickoff BBQ
- 4th of July Road Race and Fun Run
- Lobster Roll Fundraiser
- July 4th Contradance
- Come Together on the Field BBQ Supper
- Children's Theater: The Little Mermaid
- Swim lessons 6 days per week
- Ten weeks of Kids' Place camps
- Ten weeks of Rec Summer Camp
- Adult Swim Clinics
- Cardio Fit Classes
- Aqua aerobics classes
- Pilates & Yoga classes
- Pumpkin Decorating
- Turkey Trot
- Bystander CPR class
- Kids' Craft Fair & Holiday Party
- Caroling in the Woods with CCLT & CCC
- Monthly Programs:
 - Dessert and Discussion
 - Crafternoons
 - Movie nights
 - Trivia
- Weekly Programs
 - Personal fitness training and group strength training
Monday through Thursday evenings.
 - After-school program Monday through Thursday
 - Teen Center
 - Yoga with Hayley
 - Pick-up Pickleball Games three days per week
 - Mahjong





How To Make A Gift

We appreciate and depend on your support at Kids' Place and the Rec Center.

Please make checks payable to: **Chebeague Recreation Center** or **Kids' Place**.

Chebeague Recreation Center
382 North Rd
Chebeague Island, ME 04017



To donate stock or discuss estate planning, please contact Caitlin Whetham
chebeaguerecreation@gmail.com or 207-846-5068

Thank you to all of our supporters and wonderful volunteers!

