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January 13, 2025

Dear Business Leader,

We would like to invite you to be a champion of the emerging Blue Economy in the Bay Area and northern California as a founding sponsor of the Stone Soup Leadership Institute's **Blue Job Shadow Day**.

Held in partnership with the **College of Marin's Environmental Action Club**, it will be held on: **February 12** from **12:30-1:40 pm**.

*"The Institute's Blue Job Shadow Day could spark an ongoing exploration of the Blue Economy, including topics such as blue tech, blue finance, marine biology and research, clean water management, and sustainable fisheries. We invite potential supporters and funders to join us to invest in Marin and Bay Area young people and support this exciting sustainable economic initiative."*

**The College of Marin President, Jonathan Eldridge**

The **Blue Economy** is one of the fastest growing economic sectors in California. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [projects the blue economy will reach \\$3 Trillion by 2030](#).

Founded in 1997 on Martha's Vineyard, the Institute has worked with **Blue Economy** leaders and community colleges in New England since 2018. The Institute's **Blue Job Shadow Day** builds on three decades of hosting Job Shadow Days in communities around the world. This immersive experience will showcase education exhibits with workforce development opportunities - internships, jobs, certificates - for students to explore and pursue in the Blue Economy in the Bay Area community and California.

COM President Eldridge will open the event by welcoming **California Community Colleges Chancellor's** regional representative who will share about the **Blue Economy Climate Action Program** aiming to meet emerging employment demands in ocean-related labor markets. [link](#)

**Guest speakers:** Bay Area entrepreneur **John Finger, Hog Island** and **Perry Raso, Matunuck Oyster Farm** received the Institute's **2024 Cronkite Award for Ocean Champions** for his leadership in New England's aquaculture industry.

We have enclosed background materials along with the sponsor benefits. As a founding sponsor, you are invited to join us as our special guest.

Alison will follow up with you to explore your participation.  
[Alison@stonesoupleadership.org](mailto:Alison@stonesoupleadership.org)

Warm regards,

Marianne Larned  
Author, Founding Director

The Institute is 501c3 non-profit organization whose educational tools and professional development (PD) trainings empower educators guide students towards building a sustainable world.

**Stone Soup Leadership Institute • [www.stonesoupleadership.org](http://www.stonesoupleadership.org)**