

## Blue Economy Case Study: 2018-2020 Newport, Rhode Island

### SustainWDN™ Pathway: Blue Economy Careers



#### Our Partners

- CCRI: Community College of Rhode Island
- Clean Ocean Access
- Johnson & Wales University
- Innovate Newport
- Sail Newport
- Salve Regina University
- [Newport Blue Companies](#)

*Thanks to the Institute's SustainWDN™ Program, I learned how disconnected our students are from our local industry and government incentive programs. Students have high aspirations, so helping them recognize and identify paths can help them develop their dreams and ignite local communities with needed solutions to local challenges.*

**Anthony Baro, E2Sol/PowerDocks LLC**

**Video:** [SustainWDN™ Building Bridges for a Sustainable Economy Website](#)

**The Institute** worked with business, education and government leaders to develop a year-long workforce development program to support the Blue Economy.

#### The Challenges

- Rhode Island aspires to become a leader in Blue Economy
- With 11 universities and colleges, there are precious few jobs
- Multicultural youth are disconnected from sustainable careers
- Silos exist between business, government, academia & schools



#### Strategic Implementation

- The Institute designed the **SustainWDN™ Design-a-Thon** to “build bridges” with Blue Economy leaders.
- **SustainWDN™ Business Survey** engaged Blue Economy companies to offer workforce development opportunities to youth.

#### Program

- Year-long workforce development program to accelerate development of “21st Century Skills” for the Blue Economy.
- College Prep & Field Trip, Career Mentor & Job Shadow Day
- Sustainability Summit & Projects

#### Community Engagement Process

- Rhode Island schools nominated youth to be trained as leaders
- Sustainability Tour: Perry Raso, Matunuck Oyster Farm
- U.S. Senator Whitehouse’s Energy, Environment, Ocean Day

