



221 20th Street
Galveston, Texas 77550
Phone: 409-762-0026

WWW.galvestonseafarerscenter.org

June 30, 2022

Dear Devoted Friends of the Seafarers Center:

Since the restart of cruising in July 2021, the center has come full circle and we are happy to report even more robust activity than before COVID's shut down of the industry.

In the period starting July 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022, the attendance in the center grew from zero to 7,365 visitors (670 per month). In the same period, we transported over 1,700 crewmembers to receive COVID vaccinations, to go shopping and other errands. Also, during this time, the center has received and distributed almost 20,000 packages for the visiting crewmembers. These results are exponentially higher than the results prior to the pandemic. We attribute these positive results to the communication we have created onboard the vessels, our social media presence, the renovations made inside the center and our wonderful team of volunteers. We have created an atmosphere that allow the visitors to feel welcome, safe, and comfortable and to consider the center as their home away from home.

As in 2020 and 2021, our Board of Directors has made the decision to not host a fundraising Gala in 2022. The health risks in 2020 and 2021 were the reason for these cancelations. As we continue to move forward out of the pandemic shutdown, we considered hosting a Gala in 2022. As everyone is experiencing, the costs for hosting events continue to rise. It is simply not a good business decision to spend \$50-60,000 to host a Gala, hoping that we will not only recoup the event cost but also to raise funds to support the center. We believe, as a supporter, you would rather we spend the money sustaining and growing our mission and ministry.

Earlier in this letter, we reviewed the positive growth the center is experiencing. While this growth is exciting, it comes at a cost. We are estimating, in 2022, our total operating expenses will grow more than \$20,000 over the final of 2021. In 2021, our monthly expenses exceeded \$11,000. In 2022, we estimate our monthly expenses will grow and exceed \$12,750 per month for an estimated total of \$153,000. The most impactful areas of cost growth include insurance, utilities, salaries, special assistance to individuals and van operations.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your past support. We hope we have represented your trust in a manner worthy of your continued support (see reverse) as we continue our mission to provide care for people of the sea.

Sincerely,

Mike Dudas
Board President

Albert Choate
Treasurer

Board of Directors: Christina Aaron, Jonathan Frank, John Gaddis, Brian Lemire, Tammy Lobaugh, Carla Peoples, Erik Stramblad, Robert Henkel

Fundraising – 2022

As we anticipate and revel in the joy that normalcy has brought, we must understand that the need to provide for our friends of the sea will likely far surpass any other time in recent history. The Seafarers Center is reaching out to YOU, our valued friends of the Galveston Seafarers Center, to consider sending a generous donation that will assist us in financing the operations of the Center throughout the next year. Without generous donations, such as yours, the Center will have to rely on its reserves to continue normal operation.

Below are suggested donation levels that we would ask you to consider:

- **Admiral Level:** \$10,000 and above. Your name or the name of your organization would be permanently identified as an Admiral Level Donor on our Seafarers Friends Board. This board is prominently placed for all to see when they visit the Center. Also, these names will be posted on our webpage.
 - An Admiral Level donation would cover most of one month of the Center's total operating cost or almost one-third of the annual insurance expense.
- **Captain Level:** \$5,000 - \$9,999. Your name or the name of your organization would be permanently identified as a Captain Level Donor on our Seafarers Friends Board. This board is prominently placed for all to see when they visit the Center. Also, these names will be posted on our webpage.
 - A Captain Level donation could cover all or part of one full month of the Center's operating cost or 3-6 months of our telephone, internet, and utility cost.
- **Commander Level:** \$1,000 - \$4,999. Your name or the name of your organization would be permanently identified as a Commander Level Donor on our Seafarers Friends Board. This board is prominently placed for all to see when they visit the Center. Also, these names will be posted on our webpage.
 - A Commander Level donation could be used to cover all or part of our salary expense for one month.
- **Ensign Level:** \$500 - \$999. Your name or the name of your organization would be permanently identified as an Ensign Level Donor on our Seafarers Friends Board. This board is prominently placed for all to see when they visit the Center. Also, these names will be posted on our webpage.
 - An Ensign Level donation could cover all or part of our utility costs for one month or to assist in purchasing toiletry supplies for visiting seafarers.
- **Seafarers Friend:** \$250 - \$499. Your name or the name of your organization would be permanently identified on our Seafarers Friends Board. This board is prominently placed for all to see when they visit the Center. Also, these names will be posted on our webpage.
 - A Seafarers Friend donation could be used to purchase socks and gloves to be distributed to visiting seafarers and the local fishing/shrimping fleet.