



# SEA BASE Engaging Youth to SAVE FLORIDA'S REEF



# Coral Reefs are Endangered

THE TIME FOR ACTION IS **NOW**

## SEA BASE IS A BEACON OF HOPE

Coral reefs are disappearing and 60% will be lost by 2030. Ocean plants generate 85% of the oxygen we breathe, and coral reefs are essential for supplying food, defending shorelines, serving as sources of medicine, and both maintaining and generating employment.

Sea Base is part of NOAA's **Mission: Iconic Reefs**, a bold program to restore seven reefs in the Florida Keys to 20% coral coverage so they can reproduce on their own. This effort will plant over 500,000 corals and restore 2.85 million square feet of reef.

The Sea Base coral restoration program is the only program that exclusively engages young people to grow, care for and plant coral. The goal is to take coral off the endangered species list and restore the third largest reef tract in the world.

IMAGINE THE IMPACT  
WHEN A YOUNG PERSON  
PLANTS CORAL TODAY  
AND YEARS LATER  
BRINGS THEIR SON OR  
DAUGHTER BACK TO  
SNORKEL "THEIR REEF."

## INSPIRE

Eighty-five percent of teenagers are concerned about the environment and want to make a difference. Through Sea Base programs, young people can make a difference today and be proud of their efforts.

Your support of Sea Base will enable us to grow to serve 20,000 young men and women each year, all of whom will learn about the importance of ecology and our ocean environment, and be involved in restoring Florida's coral reef and ecosystem.





## EXPERIENCE

Sea Base programs offer hands-on experience in coral restoration, marine sciences, environmental science and much more. These experiences, along with being part of a larger effort to restore the reef, connect with young people and their desire to make a positive difference our environment.

Based on surveys, we know an experience at Sea Base has ignited lifelong interest, passion and careers in our participants.

### WARREN

"When I remember my biggest accomplishment, it will be the Sea Base program."

Helped plant coral in 2021.



## LEARN

The Sea Base coral restoration program teaches youth how to micro fragment coral (to speed their growth) and the care and monitoring of coral as they grow. When the coral are ready, participants also help plant coral on the reef.

All Sea Base programs have an environmental emphasis and participants conduct sea grass studies, reporting bleaching on the reef, conduct turtle counts, and catch Mahi Mahi and sharks as part of NOAA's effort to track shark and fish species. Participants also build submersible ROV's (Remote Operated Vehicles) to record underwater life and coral health at deeper depths.

### EMILY

"I never realized that coral that has been here for centuries is dying in a matter of months."

STEM Program Participant



## GROW

Since 2019, Sea Base's coral restoration work has effectively established and developed coral, rebuilding Florida's reefs. Boasting a 93% survival rate, the program's contributions were featured in the 2025 National Marine Sanctuary magazine.

Starting with 200 corals, the Sea Base Brinton Environmental Center nursery now holds 15,000 corals for reef planting. With your help, this nursery will grow to 20,000 corals, and this successful program will be replicated at Sea Base Islamorada (Lower Matecumbe Key) to grow another 20,000 corals.

Your support will allow Sea Base to double coral growth and planting, while developing character, confidence, and teamwork in youth through ocean adventures. Sea Base programs teach the importance of the ocean and Florida Bay, empowering participants to make a positive impact in their communities.



# Your Support Will Make a Difference

## EMPOWERING YOUTH & PROTECTING CORAL REEFS

The highly qualified and trained Sea Base staff deliver world class ocean experiences. Sea Base also partners with the marine science community in the Florida Keys to expand our impact and share resources as we work together to restore Florida's reef and inspire young men and women to be stewards of our environment.

The transformative, once-in-a-lifetime experiences offered by Sea Base programs have driven its remarkable expansion. Starting with just 300 Scouts in its inaugural year of 1980, the program now reaches over 14,000 youth annually.

Demand for Sea Base programs is high, with staff and participant housing at full capacity. To provide more youth with life-changing programs we must expand facilities, modernize existing structures, and continue the critically important coral restoration program. By supporting Sea Base, you will enable programs to grow and serve 20,000 young people each year.

**RYAN**

"It is going to make an everlasting change and an everlasting benefit for generations to come."

Helped plant coral in 2021.

## JOIN US NOW TO:

- ☼ Operate and expand the only coral restoration program that engages young people to grow, care for, and plant coral.
- ☼ Expand the number of corals in our nurseries from 15,000 to 40,000 and increase our efforts restore Florida's coral reef – the world's third largest.
- ☼ Meet the continued demand for Sea Base programs, which have grown 26% in the last six years.
- ☼ Support and expand key partnerships in the marine science community, continuing as an integral partner in **Mission: Iconic Reefs**.
- ☼ Positively impact the next generation of youth to become the stewards of our world.
- ☼ Deliver a once-in-a-lifetime combination of ocean adventures, education, and character-building experiences to thousands of young men and women.

**We welcome your support** and desire to learn more about the Sea Base mission.

Contact me to start the conversation about how you can partner with us to restore these precious ecosystems, or explore other ways to contribute.

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