

## **Nonprofit Organization Grants:**

Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety  
Recreational Boating Safety

Federal Grant Title:	National Non-Profit Organization Grant Program
Federal Agency:	United States Coast Guard
Funding Opportunity Number:	DHS-USCG-2022-001
Type of Funding:	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA Numbers:	97.012
CFDA Descriptions:	Boating Safety Financial Assistance

Grantee: Spirit of America Foundation  
Grant Number: 70Z02322MO0005090  
Grant Title: Youth Family and Community Hands on Boating Safety Education Programs  
Period of Performance: 3 year grant

Award Amount: \$350,000.00

### **Summary:**

The Spirit of America Foundation respectfully submits a 39-month grant proposal under the National Recreational Boating Safety Program Strategic Plan 2017-2021 priorities and initiatives. While Spirit of America inherently provides boating safety education information encompassed in several of the 'Areas of Interest', including the dangers of boating under the influence of alcohol and drug use, adherence to State and federal laws, evaluating the present-day use of wear and future goals of life jacket wear in our communities, equipment and safety awareness regarding the hazards of leaving a boat voluntarily without the use of a life jacket, particularly in cooler water, we are also profoundly integrated in our communities, providing year-round outreach, marketing, and boating safety hands-on training programs. Our programs specifically address the components of 'Areas of Interest' #2, in an effort to better implement the strategic plan by improving and expanding educational opportunity benefitting the recreational boating public, ingraining safer boating practices and behaviors. Our proposal addresses the need for assistance to continue to grow our existing SOA education programs throughout the country, providing each with the tools for successful presentation of curriculum and to open additional national locations, with focus on further developing year-round in school credit programs.

Through the structured on-water presentation of boating safety curriculum, our students are made aware of the inherent dangers of boating but none the less how to safely enjoy a great, life-long recreational activity. Proper and constant wear of life jackets, navigation rules, proper use of engine cutoff switches and prop guards, cold weather precautions and consequences of irresponsible behavior, are all taught hands on. We will provide a unique, safe and educational introduction to our country's youth, their families and communities, utilizing education standards

in all disciplines of boating and water based recreational activities in the most diverse classrooms in America.

We will continue to (as described in our Project Narrative):

- Cultivate a boating public that is better prepared to engage in safer boating behaviors, by growing new generations of safe-smart boaters.
- Nurture collaborative efforts among the stakeholders by utilizing our strong partnerships within our host locations. We have established a sustainable network of providers, encouraging them to identify their talents and share them in their communities, targeting traditionally underrepresented groups in boating as well as the tens of thousands of new boaters we now see on the water in record breaking numbers.

We strongly believe in the effect of hands on basic education for our students. The ability to incorporate the national knowledge and on-water skills-based education standards with drowning prevention and equipment awareness sets us apart from other programs. We are committed to our leadership role to safely advance the promotion of recreational boating education for all participants and in all disciplines; completion of state boating education courses, drowning prevention, water competency, sail, human powered and powered watercraft. We see a much broader impact from our programs as we become an integral part of each community and continue prove safe opportunity allows for immediate and prolonged educational awareness, retention and growth for participants. We provide personal gratification and introduction to unlimited career possibilities of sustainable water based recreational activities increasing, substantially, the number of community boating programs available in the United States.

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