

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Working Together to Support Richmond

<u>The RDTC is driven by shared values</u> – our dedicated team of volunteers work together for the Richmond and Chariho community with an emphasis on responsible and effective leadership, strong public schools, and sustainable growth. We're always looking for more friends and neighbors to join us for meetings and events.



Community Building and Support

OUR LOCAL INITIATIVES AND EVENTS REINFORCE A STRONG SENSE OF SHARED COMMUNITY WITH THE GOAL OF COLLECTIVE ACTION AND CONNECTION.

- **January Community Conversation:** Learned about the Village Commons of RI, organize community volunteers to providing seniors with assistance.
- March Spring Kick-off Food Drive at Stop & Shop: Collected over 800lbs of non-perishable goods for donation to the food pantry at RICAN.
- April Earth Day Community Clean-up: Organized group participation in the annual Richmond Conservation Commission Town Clean-up.
- · May Richmond-Carolina Memorial Day Parade
- July Clothing Donation Drive: Collected 80 bags of clothing, fabric, and shoes for donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island.
- August Annual School Snacks Drive at RICAN: Participants donated 200lbs of snacks for students, bringing yearly donation to RICAN to over ½ ton food!
- September Healthcare Forum: (see sidebar for more information)
- October Ranked Choice Voting Information Session
- November Booksgiving: Community event where attendees swap books.

READ MORE ABOUT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH ON PAGE 2!





2025 SPOTLIGHT EVENT

Healthcare Forum – Frontline Perspectives + Q&A

We organized this forum of three panelists with extensive experience in the medical field. Dr. Michael Fine, Ms. Alison Croke, and Dr. Betty Rambur addressed RI's healthcare challenges such as access, funding, and staff shortages by sharing their knowledge of public health and healthcare policy from their respective positions as Chief Health Strategist for Central Falls, President & CEO of Wood River Health Center, and Vice-Chair of the federal Medicare Payments Advisory Commission.



RDTC MISSION

We support local government that is **responsive to Richmond residents**. We endorse **trustworthy community leaders** who believe in cooperation to achieve collective goals that will move our town in a positive direction. We advocate **sustainable growth** that respects our natural resources and infrastructure while meeting the needs of our multigenerational community.





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Civic Engagement and Voter Outreach

MAJOR 2025 FOCUS - INCREASING OUTREACH

- The four Democratic Town Councilors collaborated with the Republican Councilor, town staff, and residents on a responsible budget emphasizing road repairs and retaining skilled workers.
- For the first vote, RDTC went door-to-door canvassing but opposition rallied to secure defeat with 12% voter turnout. Council revised the budget proposal prioritizing key investments, and RDTC expanded outreach by mailing postcards. As a result, voter turnout rose to 16%, and the budget passed.
- This year saw many national issues, but many of our community members were
 excited to find ways to get engaged to create a difference. With a lot going on,
 we started the #DoOneThing campaign to help make recommendations for
 small things that make big differences!

Your Voice is Important!

WE ENCOURAGE ATTENDANCE AT LOCAL PUBLIC MEETINGS TO TAKE PART IN COMMUNITY DECISION-MAKING.

- Richmond Town Council meets bi-monthly on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6pm.
- Chariho School Committee meets monthly on Tuesdays at 7pm, with additional subcommittee meetings and workshops.
- Additional information about Richmond's Boards and Commissions along with their meeting schedules and published agendas can be found on the town website.

IMPORTANT VOTING DATES IN 2026

- · Chariho School Budget Referendum in April.
- · Richmond Town Budget Referendum in June.
- 2026 Midterms in November Elect strong candidates for local/state/US positions.
 Chariho Bond Referendum to build a Unified Elementary School will also be on the ballot.







Making Statewide Connections

Connecting residents with state and national leaders remains a key part of our work.

Through our State Leader Series we hosted; House Speaker Joe Shekarchi and Rep. Megan Cotter (February), Treasurer James Diossa, (March), and Attorney General Peter Neronha (June).

In April, we held a joint meeting to collaborate with Hopkinton, Westerly, and Charlestown Dem Town Committees, joined by House Representatives, Megan Cotter and Brian Patrick Kennedy.

At our Rooted in Richmond
Garden Party and Fundraiser in
August, we were joined by US Rep.
Seth Magaziner, Secretary of
State Gregg Amore, US Sen. Jack
Reed, State Rep. Megan Cotter,
and RI House Speaker Joe
Shekarchi.



JOIN US TO GET INVOLVED AND STAY ENGAGED IN 2026!

The RDTC meets fourth? Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm in the Richmond Community/Senior Center. The first 30 minutes of each meeting is open to non-members for updates and to share thoughts/concerns. We also have a weekly email list to share information.

