



# GRIT EMPATHY LOVE

## IMPACT REPORT 2022

### THE MISSION

Kismet Rock Foundation nourishes the physical, intellectual and emotional development of rural and urban children throughout New England before they enter their formative teen years.

### MAKING AN IMPACT

2022 Season

- 6 weeks of programs
- 44 students from diverse backgrounds
- 7-8 students per group
- 8 New England Schools

### AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE

It is with gratitude that I share with you a glimpse into my first summer experiencing the world of Kismet. Thank you for the opportunity and believing in the work of this remarkable organization. I have learned so much and am honored to be a part of this family along with you.

Grit, Empathy and Love! When provided a platform to challenge themselves, to explore and learn both physically and socially, these kids shine. The subtle support and encouragement to take the extra step, to reach for the hold, to respect their peers, to express themselves and to be heard, slowly creates a transformative bond and an empowered voice.

**The Kismet program is exceptional in providing an opportunity that these students may otherwise never experience: an opportunity to realize how brave they are, to find their voice, and to realize their value in exactly who they are!**

At Kismet, we witness the remarkable human nature of kindness and inner strength of the students and it is truly inspiring. Thank you for your support and trust in the power of Kismet and for allowing these kids to flourish.

We are in full stride with off-season efforts and preparation for 2023 and beyond as we strive to create supportive experiences for youth. Inside you will find moments we experienced in 2022 and our path for the future. We are excited for the journey ahead and we can't wait to continue to expand the Kismet family.

Thank you for sharing in this important work and giving these kids powerful moments, friendships and a platform to ignite the spark within.

Truly Grateful,

*Krissy Fraser*

Krissy Fraser  
- Executive Director



*"I can push my limits and persevere through tough situations, it's okay to fall and have setbacks."*

- 3rd year student





*"Let yourself relax because no matter how hard it is, if you take your time and breathe the view and feeling of getting to the top is always beautiful."*

- 3rd year student

## SEEKING THE SUMMIT:

With a year of new staff, a growing Board of Trustees, new and returning students all wrapped in an environment of dedication and enlightenment, all of us at Kismet are eager to continue the mission.

*"You can do what you think you can't - nothing is impossible."*

- '22 Kismet Graduate

On the operations side, we have ambitious goals of expanding and diversifying our support base. We are confident in this effort knowing that when we can share the unique and powerful work of Kismet with others it is easy to see the value and impact each individual can have by supporting our efforts.

Our Board of Trustees is becoming more diverse and each member is dedicated to bringing an area of expertise to the program in order to move us on sure footing in the right direction as we look to the future of having a broader impact on youth in our communities.

*"Work hard and believe in yourself."*

- 1st year student

We are underway with expanding our off-season engagement with the students - creating ways to deepen a connection with our students, mainly through indoor climbing events and Zoom hangout sessions. Off-season programming will offer our students more of a platform to hone their skills and nurture relationships with each other and is another way for us to integrate with them in their communities.

*"I discovered my strength that I honestly - definitely - underestimated."*

- 3rd year student

Next summer the program will expand to seven weeks as we continue to rebound from the past years' disruptions. Each Kismet week is filled to the brim with fierce dedication from all involved - a tireless staff, a supportive community, and groups of kids that bring everything they have in courage, determination, and hope. **Words will never do it justice - it just works, and we are proud to do this work and thankful for your belief in Kismet.**

There is so much room for growth and so many connections to be made. Equipped with the knowledge and experience from this past year, we are so excited for the adventure ahead!



## YOUR SUPPORT MAKING A DIFFERENCE

### KISMET MAKING CHANGE

Opening up the minds & hearts of kids

*We know because they tell us....*

*"I can do whatever I put my mind to."* - 2nd year student

*"Keep pushing, anything's a foot hold."* - 2nd year student

*"Never give up!"* - 1st year student

*"I learned what a family of friends feels like and a different connection with people."* - 3rd year student

*"Kismet gave me opportunities to do things I wouldn't be able to do at home on my own and helped me form new bonds."* - 3rd year student

## WHO WE SERVE:

Kismet serves diverse youth who are at an economic disadvantage and often experience other inequities in their social, intellectual, and physical environments.

A common thread that we observe is a lack of opportunity for enrichment programs because of circumstances that are outside of the child's control. Although these students yearn for experiences to grow their potential, barriers to access are often too high and numerous to surmount on their own.

We understand that having a diverse group of peers is beneficial towards the development of greater worldview and emotional intelligence. We balance each of our Kismet groups with a variety of communities, ethnicities, and genders. These factors are heavily weighed in our meticulous student selection process.

We offer students a path to empowerment and to be greater equipped to deal with adversity - to know there is a caring support system available.

*"Kismet's magic is steeped in human connection and relationship building."*

- Ara Morton, Program Manager

## OUR CLIMB:

We are a small organization that empowers students by offering enrichment through an education in rock climbing within the context of a family environment.

We create an environment where the students are engaged socially, emotionally, intellectually, and physically all at once.

Our climbing curriculum allows each student the opportunity to challenge themselves at their own rate while being supported by their peers and expert climbing guides.

At the cliff, climbing is a platform to practice teamwork, decision making, kinesthetic awareness, and more - there are endless growth opportunities at the crag.

At the Kismet house, a full-value contract sets the stage for students to feel safe in developing a voice, relating to others, and harnessing the power of collective communication.

Kismet's 4-year graduation track allows for deep and meaningful relationships to take root and grow. Through loving intention and receptive hearts, real and meaningful bonds are formed that are capable of enduring a lifetime.

*"Kismet gives me a second home where I can feel safe and respected. It gives me an outlet to get out of my comfort zone and do it with people I love."*

- 3rd year student





# STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW - September 2022 - August 2025

KISMET  
ROCK  
FOUNDATION

## VISION:

To create a pathway for underserved youths throughout New England to connect with each other through the exploration of rock climbing. To support their emotional and social growth in a diverse, multicultural community, enhancing their ability to thrive in life. Kismet Rock Foundation serves as a replicable model for other organizations with similar constituents and goals.

## MISSION:

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## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:

Establish a sustainable funding path.

### EXPAND PROGRAMMING:

Expand our diverse student base to impact more youth throughout New England.

### DEEPER PROGRAMMING

To provide year-round support for Kismet students to connect with the community and the sport, allowing for further growth and development opportunities.

### TEAMWORK AND GOVERNANCE:

The Board of Directors will grow and develop its Board, committees and volunteers to best serve Kismet.

### KISMET HOME BASE:

Own a property that provides a home base for the program long term.

## THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR KIDS TO SHINE

The success of Kismet is due in thanks to the generous support of many individual donors, partners, foundations and local community businesses providing in-kind support. We extend our gratitude to all that made the 2022 program a success.

### FOUNDATION AND GRANT SUPPORT



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Mathew and Martha Masiello Family Fund



CROCKER CATALYST  
FOUNDATION



The Neil & Louise  
Tillotson Fund



The Robert and Dorothy Goldberg  
Charitable Foundation

The Kendal C. and Anna Ham  
Charitable Foundation

The Samuel P Hunt Foundation

The Gibson/Woodbury  
Charitable Foundation



North Country Cares

### CORPORATE PARTNERS

### COMMUNITY & IN-KIND SUPPORT



Trails End IceCream

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