



**MISSION RESOLVE**  
FOUNDATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RECORD-BREAKING OCEAN PLASTIC REMOVAL MISSION RECEIVES MAJOR DONATION AS A CHALLENGE GRANT**

*Ocean Voyages Institute Announces Historic 103 Tons of Plastic Removed from the Great Pacific Garbage Patch with Support from Mission Resolve Foundation*

[Photos/Videos](#)

**FORT LAUDERDALE, FL, June 25th, 2020** - Mission Resolve Foundation announced today it has gifted Ocean Voyages Institute \$25,000 as a challenge grant to other sponsors to join them in their support of their critical upcoming second clean-up expedition. The highly successful first leg of this clean-up expedition includes collaborating organizations such as NASA, Smithsonian, Scripps Oceanography, University of Hawaii, and University of Washington. The expedition returned to Hawaii from the North Pacific Sub-Tropical Convergence Zone on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, pulling 103 tons of fishing nets and consumer plastics and having set a record for the largest open ocean clean-up that has ever been done.

Mission Resolve will continue to highlight the ongoing and crucial ocean plastic clean-up work being conducted by Ocean Voyages Institute (OVI). The missions are personally coordinated by Mary T. Crowley, Founder and Executive Director of OVI based in Sausalito, California. Crowley is also a founding member of the Mission Resolve Foundation, and, for over a decade has been internationally recognized as a pioneer of large-scale clean-up of toxic plastic in our oceans. "We know existing maritime equipment can be used successfully by re-purposing and innovating to accomplish extremely effective clean-up of the proliferating poisonous plastics in our global ocean," says Crowley.

This \$25,000 matching challenge grant donated by Mission Resolve Foundation provides necessary funding to help make this second 2020 clean-up voyage to the Gyre possible and enables OVI to increase the amount of plastic it is removing from the ocean this year. The length of this second summer leg will be determined by how successful Ocean Voyages Institute is in securing additional donations.

"We're honored to support Ocean Voyages Institute on this critically important ocean plastic clean-up work," said Mission Resolve Foundation Co-Founder Joseph Farrell II, who is also the Founder and CEO of Resolve Marine, one of the world's largest marine salvage/ship rescue, artificial reef deployment and emergency and environmental response companies. "Our support of this mission through our challenge grant highly encourages all other like-minded individuals and organizations to join us in helping to immediately fund these imperative clean-up efforts."

Plans are currently underway to deploy Mission Resolve Foundation's 216-foot Humanitarian and Environmental Response Vessel, the Lana Rose, in OVI's 2021 clean-up expedition. This will significantly scale these marine plastic clean-up operations and make an even greater impact. The Lana Rose will also provide extensive media and educational components to these ongoing expeditions through an onboard broadcast facility and live streaming capabilities.

For more information on how you and/or your organization can join Mission Resolve Foundation with a matching grant, other donations or sponsorship opportunities please contact Amanda Martin, Director of Communications at (239) 370-8696 or [Amanda@missionresolve.org](mailto:Amanda@missionresolve.org).



### **About Mission Resolve Foundation**

Mission Resolve Foundation serves as a global catalyst to engage, educate and inspire the public in best practices for humanitarian aid, civic engagement and the deployment of applied environmental science. The organization utilizes its extensive network and expertise to assist with the coordination of government relief and recovery efforts among public, private and non-governmental organizations after devastating natural disasters, helping to get desperately needed supplies and aid to those affected. Additionally, Mission Resolve Foundation works with leading scientists and global thought leaders to help provide best practices in the development of resilient communities in addition to assisting in the mitigation and implementation of solutions for international environmental challenges such as marine plastics, artificial reefs, coastal erosion and coral reef restoration. For more please visit [www.MissionResolve.org](http://www.MissionResolve.org).

### **About Ocean Voyages Institute**

Ocean Voyages Institute (OVI) was founded in 1979 by Mary T. Crowley. Over the past 40 years it has provided sail training programs, engaged with high schools and college classrooms on subjects such as marine biology, and collaborated with other non-profit organizations around the world on a variety of projects and missions furthering the preservation of the maritime arts and sciences, ocean environment, and island cultures. OVI creates access to ocean experiences as well as education promoting appreciation of the beauty and importance of our ocean to a healthy planet and our own health. OVI began ocean clean-up initiatives in the Pacific Ocean in 2009 on board the non-profit's brigantine KAISEI and has been working continually to find solutions to the ocean trash dilemma since then. Ocean Voyages Institute has received numerous awards, including United Nations (UNEP)'s "Climate Hero Award," and Google Inc.'s "Earth Hero Award." For more information please visit [www.OceanVoyagesInstitute.org](http://www.OceanVoyagesInstitute.org).

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