



# Safe Harbor Youth Ambassador Of The Month Christina Heinlein

By Nicole Balaschi, Program Director of Safe Harbor Cohasset Coalition

**This month's Safe Harbor Youth Ambassador of the Month features Cohasset Middle School student, Christa Heinlein. Christa is an eighth-grader at Cohasset Middle School and joined the Youth Ambassador group in September 2019 with the desire to make a difference in Cohasset and beyond. She feels that it doesn't necessarily matter exactly how she and her peers make a difference, as long as what they are doing impacts herself, her peers, Cohasset and Massachusetts in a positive way. Since joining Youth Ambassadors, Christa has been involved in many substance misuse and mental health awareness projects. One project was the RainWorks project, a project that involved a positive message outside the school that only appeared when it rained, with the goal to uplift peers on gloomy days.**

Christa lives here in Cohasset with her mother, father, and older brother, Liam, but they haven't always called Cohasset their home. Before starting a family, her parents moved to Germany after they met, the country where her father is from and where they had her brother, Liam. Christa's parents and brother then moved to New Zealand for a few years where Christa was then born! Two years later, the Heinleins moved to Cohasset, lived a short stint in Oregon where Christa and Liam attended a German-American school and placed their roots back in Cohasset in 2011, where they currently enjoy living in their newly rebuilt home.

Outside of the Youth Ambassador Program, Christa is part of Troop 48 for the scouts and enjoys reading, sewing, playing tennis, speaking German with her dad and skiing. Most of all, however, she loves to travel. Her favorite trips thus far with her family include skiing in Austria and, the best experience of her life, the seven-week trip to Australia, New Zealand, and Tokyo for her father's work.

Program Director, Nicole Balaschi, says that Christa's overall hope is that she can make a difference being part of Youth Ambassadors and that the group will help make Cohasset an even better place to live. Nicole notes that Christa is a very intelligent individual who brings a lot to the table, giving her no doubt that whatever Christa puts her mind to, she will be able to make a positive impact on her peers and this community.



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