

Baltimore International Seafarers' Center

1430 Wallace Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
baltseafarers@aol.com

443-610-1553

www.baltseafarers.org

September 2020

Dear Friend of Seafarers,

The Baltimore International Seafarers' Center reluctantly canceled our 2020 Harbor Tour because of COVID-19. But meanwhile, the stresses faced by seafarers have increased during this time of pandemic.

Seafarers have had to stay on board as long as 15 months, instead of the usual 5 to 9, because of the difficulties of international travel. They're almost never allowed ashore in port, they worry about infection inadvertently spread by authorities coming on board, and of course they worry about their loved ones back home. BISC has found many new ways to serve these frontline workers: supportive emails and Facebook messages, errands for crew members, and delivering gifts from their families. Chaplain Mary Davisson and others visit in masks on the gangway, with multi-lingual handouts about help lines and advocacy. And seafarers especially appreciate our Hershey's "Kisses," a new offering in place of handshakes!

But now that seafarers mostly can't go ashore, we've lost a vital revenue stream, their donations after we transport them. And fund-raising gatherings aren't possible now. What to do?

Since many of us have become more comfortable in a virtually enhanced world, whether with work or family and friends, BISC would like to offer you an exciting opportunity to participate in a VIRTUAL HARBOR TOUR. Your participation will be vital to the tour's success!

In exchange for the sponsorship you'd normally provide for our traditional harbor tour, we invite you to work with us to share some "behind the scenes" information about your part in the port community. You may already have some PR footage to share, or you may use your phone to film a corner of your world which passengers don't get to see on our normal harbor tours. Sponsors' videos, as well as brief interviews with BISC volunteers, will be combined to create a unique and special look at the working port of Baltimore. This will be launched in early 2021, and may subsequently attract thousands of views online.

In these times of unprecedented challenge, your support of the Baltimore Internal Seafarer's Center will ensure that our work can continue, serving those who keep our supply chains and businesses open.

Sponsorship levels follow below. Please write Ed Moos (EDM@MoranTug.com) or Mike Reagoso (mreagoso@McAllisterTowing.com) by November 1 to sign up. Thank you!

Gratefully,

M. R. Reagoso, III

Capt. Mike Reagoso
President of the Board of Directors
Baltimore International Seafarers' Center

Suggested sponsorship levels, all amounts welcomed;

ADMIRAL--\$500.00—2 minutes of time on the video

CAPTAIN--\$250.00—1 minute

ENSIGN--\$100.00—30 seconds

Please send your check to Baltimore International Seafarers' Center, 1430 Wallace St., Baltimore MD 21230, or click the Donate button at BaltSeafarers.org.



Serving those who go down to the sea in ships.