

**Program Summary: Socio-Economic Well-being**

Objective: to foster a robust quality of life for year-round islanders, seasonal residents, and visitors alike.



Key Topics:

- Island-appropriate growth, including “sustainable tourism” and “Blue Economy” (water-based) opportunities
- Education (island schools)
- Infrastructure, including ferry systems and telecommunications (broadband/cell)
- Local governance, capacity building & planning
- Cultural/historic heritage

What We Do:

❖ Information Sharing & Connection

- Connect island leaders working in the economic development, community development and sustainability space
- Transfer best practices and solutions between islands
- Host webinars to showcase island case studies and learn from topic experts
- Design communications/storytelling to island and mainland audiences
- Network with other islands-oriented networks around the world



❖ Advocacy & Influence

- Foster partnership/alignment with other Great Lakes organizations
- Build relationships with mainland officials and thought leaders
- Deliver presentations at conferences and meetings
- Research issues with an island lens and develop policy positions, resolutions, and white papers
- Assist with grant application development, including letters of support



❖ Projects

- Identify needs and help implement projects across multiple islands

❖ Data & Research

- Support collection/analysis of information and development of metrics specific to islands
- Facilitate government and academic research on islands

About GLIA: The Great Lakes Islands Alliance (GLIA) is a voluntary, bi-national, collaborative network that brings together island leaders, residents, and advocates from across the region. The mission of the GLIA is to “encourage relationship building, foster information exchange, and leverage resources to address shared challenges and embrace opportunities to benefit islands.”

Visit us at <https://www.GLIAlliance.org> or <https://www.Facebook.com/glialliance>

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