# Gene Editing 360™

#### Dear Educators:

WHAT A YEAR!

When we launched the Learning Lab this year, we didn't know what to expect. New ideas always come with risk, and while we had some schools lined up to attend our half-day field trip experience, we had ambitious goals for year one.

After our initial pilot sessions, we hosted 32 sessions over the next nine months and hit goals we couldn't have imagined. We've served students in three states and all three counties of Delaware, we've built our curriculum out to include engaging quizzes and interactive activities, and we're planning to launch brand new programming in the 2025 school year to reach even more high school and college students.

Our commitment, as ever, is building up the workforce and bridging gaps in understanding between our lab and our community. CRISPR is the new frontier of innovation in environmental science, healthcare, and agriculture. It's a bioethical question in motion. It's a panacea. It's untested ground. It's built on the backbone of decades of biological science.

And we're determined to see it go into the hands of the next generation. And we want you there every step of the way.

Best, manda Hewer Education Program Manager





**32** schools engaged





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#### Teen Warehouse and GEI:

This summer, we had a unique opportunity to engage with The WRK Group: the Warehouse, a nonprofit community center that serves young people in Wilmington, DE. This warehouse was made possible due to the activism and leadership of teenagers who sought out more opportunities. Teen Executives came on-site to participate in our Learning Lab, performing the CRISPR in a Box<sup>™</sup> experiment and getting a primer on all things CRISPR. We worked with teens who were interested in pursuing a career in healthcare or research, which absolutely delighted us. As these students head into careers that put patient and population care first and foremost, they'll have an expertise in CRISPR to elevate their work and expand their capabilities.



"I liked using the micropipette to pick up all the little liquids, where you can't really see them, but you know it's there," said Bria Alleyna, one of the teen executives at The Warehouse. "I already liked science before this, but this made me more aware of what CRISPR can do."

We are proud to continue making connections with local career-building and leadership organizations. It spurs our mission forward to have groups of insightful and focused students come through our doors, offering us new perspectives, and broadening our own horizons.

Thank you, Teen Executives, for micropipetting with us!

## Check out

## our website!





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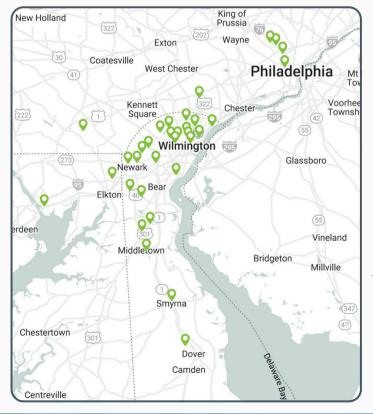
#### Carolina and CIAB 2.0

We relaunched CRISPR in a Box™, our educational toolkit, with partner organization Carolina Biological, the premier supplier of scientific lessons and equipment for K-12 and collegiate institutions.

The new version provides teachers with the option of purchasing the kit with perishables or without perishables, enabling them to buy materials that work within their lesson's parameters. The complete kit **costs almost 40% less** than its previous iteration. This aligns with our mission to ensure that CRISPR education remains affordable and accessible to schools across the country, bringing more students into the lab space and increasing STEM literacy in this new and groundbreaking field.

You can purchase a CRISPR in a Box kit at the link here, or by visiting Carolina's website and searching for 'CRISPR in a Box.' If you are an educator in Delaware, you can request a free kit for your classroom by contacting <u>geneeditinginstitute@christianacare.org</u>. In order to foster a talent pipeline right here at home, we're committed to providing kits for Delaware teachers for free for the entirety of the 2024-2025 school year.

> We're proud to have reached over 30 schools in the region.



## New Offerings!

As we grow and change, we're bringing in new courses to expand our offerings to different groups of students. We are excited to offer new programming catered to our freshmen and sophomores.

Introduction to Gene Editing 360<sup>™</sup>: an introduction course for freshman and sophomore students to build lab skills, learn lab safety, and feel confident in micropipetting as they build a foundational understanding of biology.

The Introduction to Gene Editing 360<sup>™</sup> course offering is being piloted and therefore only offered through the months of September and October as of now. If you are interested in attending, sign up to reserve a slot! You can sign up through our <u>Cvent page</u> or through emailing geneeditinginstitute@christianacare.org.

## Thank You!



We want to thank our partners and supporters, as well as the teachers and students who make this program possible. As we move into the new school year, we're incredibly humbled to keep providing high-quality programming to students and inspiring the next generation of researchers and professionals.

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### Booking for a Bigger Program: CVENT

As our program continues to evolve, we're constantly looking at better ways to enhance the experience for our educators.

That can start right at booking, which historically has involved a lot of back-and-forth emails to determine what day(s) works best for you. This year, we're working to eliminate that with **Cvent**, a **booking platform better built for** you!

Now, you can visit our website to book your Learning Lab, pick the days you want in advance, and get a confirmation email with all the materials you need to fill out far in advance. This will help us deliver a better experience for you, your students, and our educators.

Want to learn more? <u>Visit our</u> <u>Cvent page now, and book away!</u>