



January | 2024

## Upcoming Events

- **Applications for 2024 travel programs due:**  
Sunday, Dec 31
- **Applications for Passport Village JC due:**  
Sunday, Dec 31
- **January chapter mtg:**  
Thursday, Jan 4,  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.,  
Fugett M.S.,  
West Chester
- **Chapter Mini-Camp (CMC):**  
Friday, Jan 19,  
to Sunday,  
January 21,  
Chester Springs  
area
- **Selection interviews for 2024 programs:**  
Saturday,  
January 27,  
chapter  
member's home  
in Exton
- **February chapter mtg:**  
Thursday, Feb 1,  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.,  
Fugett M.S.,  
West Chester

(See our full calendar [here.](#))

**CISV Brandywine Valley is hosting a Passport Village June 17–21, 2024!**

## 2024 Travel Programs

If you're interested in being a **DELEGATE** or **LEADER** for one of our 2024 travel programs, get in touch with us **ASAP!**



**VILLAGE: MEXICO (GUADALAJARA)**  
7/5 to 8/1  
*(Must turn 11 on or in the 12 months before 8/31)*

**YOUTH MEETING: location/dates TBD**  
We anticipate getting a YM invitation in mid-January  
*(Must turn 12 or 13 on or in the 12 months before 8/31)*

**STEP UP 14: DENMARK (ROSKILDE)**  
7/12 to 8/3  
*(Must turn 14 on or in the 12 months before 8/31)*

**FORTNIGHT: USA (NEW YORK)**  
dates TBD (likely 7/13 to 7/27)  
*(Must be 16 or 17 for entire duration of program)*

**JUNIOR COUNSELOR: USA (AUSTIN-SAN ANTONIO)**  
6/22 to 7/14  
*(Must be 16 or 17 two weeks before departure and on the last day of the program)*

**SEMINAR: multiple dates and locations**  
*(Must be 16 or 17 for entire duration of program)*

## "There's no place like BV..."

Registration for our 2024 chapter mini-camp is now open! [Sign up](#) by January 4 to get the early bird discount and be guaranteed a CMC t-shirt!

Applications for **Junior Counselor (age 14–17)** are due by December 31. If you're interested in applying for this role, contact us ASAP!



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### Help us spread the word about how awesome CISV is!

Our chapter is running a JB recruitment campaign: anyone who brings a new person to a JB meeting or event will get a prize! (Just let Marsha know!)

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### CISV is a volunteer-driven organization.

Without the involvement of our chapter families and friends, CISV travel programs, chapter meetings, and other activities would not be possible. **If CISV is important to your family, please consider getting involved in our chapter!** We are always in need of volunteers (no contribution is too small!), so **contact us** to find out how you can help!



FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD . . .



. . . TO OUR 2024 CHAPTER MINI-CAMP IN THE LAND OF OZ!

**Check in:** Friday, Jan 19, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. (eat dinner before you arrive)

**Check out:** Sunday, Jan 21, 11 a.m.

**Location:** Innabah Camp and Retreat Center (in the Chester Springs area)

**Note: You must register for this event on our website.**  
**EARLY Registration until Jan 4: \$199 (includes t-shirt)**  
**LATE REGISTRATION Until Jan 11: \$215 (t-shirt not guaranteed)**  
*(sibling discounts available)*

**Please see our website for COVID protocols.**  
Camp is open to participants age 10+.  
The camp fee covers four meals, lodging, and snacks.

**Parents/guardians:** Consider being a chaperone for this low-key event! It's a great way to see what CISV activities, camps, and meetings are like (and to get to know some of the other families in our chapter). Chaperones attend the mini-camp for free. CISV requires chaperones to have certain clearances, so if you'd like to be a chaperone let us know ASAP!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US: [brandywine@cisvusa.org](mailto:brandywine@cisvusa.org)



**CISV USA**  
Brandywine Valley  
Building global friendship

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## CISV 101 Sessions

This fall/winter we are running numerous "CISV 101" information sessions to introduce CISV, our chapter, and our travel programs to new people. We currently have one more session scheduled:



- **Monday, January 8**, 7 p.m., Easttown Library, 720 First Ave, Berwyn

*(Can't make it to a CISV 101 session but want to learn about CISV and our programs? Contact us, and we'll get you the information you need!)*

If you know anyone who might be interested in learning about CISV, please tell them about these CISV 101 sessions! (And if you'd like to host one of these sessions yourself, **let us know!** We have a PowerPoint presentation you can use, and you can schedule the session for any location/date/time that works for you!)

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## Member Profile: Sue Doris

My introduction to CISV was through a

**CISV Thrifted** is our JB-led effort to raise funds for program scholarships. Check out the weekly drops of gently used and vintage CISV merch from around the world!



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Connect with us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/CISVBV>

good friend, Kate Nelson, who told me about the organization in 2006. The following year, my oldest son participated in an Interchange with the Leeds, England, chapter. Not only did he have a great experience, but my whole family did too! We loved hosting his partner and getting to know the other children and families in the delegation. As things happen, the following year the chapter was in search of an Interchange coordinator, and I agreed to take on the role.



In the years that followed, I joined the board and volunteered on several committees, eventually stepping up to the chapter president position when Janet Reynolds was ready to pass the torch. Although I was nervous to take on the role, Janet was the best coach and helped me every step of the way. I stayed in the presidency role for three years before we instituted the policy that is in place today (one year as president-elect, one year as president, one year as past president) and that makes this important role so much more manageable to accept.

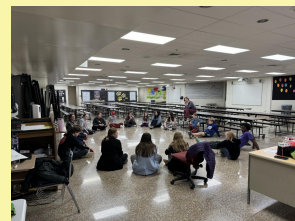
Over the years, my four children loved the international programs they attended but also benefited so much from the local JB meetings and events. The meetings focused on the topic areas of diversity, sustainability, conflict and resolution, and human rights and featured fun and thought-provoking activities, as did the local and national mini-camps they attended. They especially enjoyed the debriefs after each activity and felt like their contributions mattered. I think back with such fondness to the car rides home from those meetings and how excited the kids were to share what they learned and discussed. Although my kids are now grown adults, it's not uncommon for CISV memories to flood back when we get together. This truly makes my heart happy.

For me personally, I especially loved how CISV became a family experience—something we could all share together. (This wasn't the case with all the school clubs and sports in which they participated.) We chaperoned, hosted children, and attended picnics and potlucks together. We volunteered together for various meaningful causes, such as preparing 10,000 meals for Stop Hunger Now and promoting Peace Day. Attending the annual fall gala was another fun experience that we all enjoyed.

My current position with the chapter is on the selection committee. Each year I am amazed by the intelligence and maturity of prospective delegates. It brings me hope that in these very trying times, CISV truly *is* making a difference—one child at a time—and that it will be these children will make the world a more peaceful place.

As you've read here, volunteering for CISV has positively affected my family in so many meaningful ways. If you have the opportunity to volunteer, I hope that you will. I believe you'll be glad you did.

At the December meeting, the JB played a series of five mini-games that highlighted the importance of communication. They also revealed the theme for BV's 2024 chapter mini-camp: the Wizard of Oz!



For JB-specific news and updates, be sure to follow [the BV JB account on Instagram!](#)

CISV is a worldwide, nonreligious, nonpolitical, nonprofit organization that enables participants age 10+ to build global friendships through local chapter meetings and international and domestic camps.



**CISV USA**  
Brandywine Valley  
Building global friendship

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