



## **CY 2024 “In Retrospect” Thanks to Our Friends**

**Photo Credits:** Brynne Rardin, 2024



## Our Mission...

is to “**Elevate Black Voices**” with participation in local and regional conversations offering community environmental education to increase BIPOC participation in the regional imperative for resiliency planning to benefit climate-threatened communities that are home to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color with generations of legacy along the water’s edge. We maintain our 40-year commitment to preserving the legacy of Africans and their descendants as major contributors to the region’s maritime and seafood industries.

## Our Mantra...

**“Building Partnerships through Strategic Alliances”**

BoCF is a small nonprofit with an International profile. We can Only Do what we Do through our Volunteers, Our Partners and Our Allies!

## Our Values...

- Legislative Advocacy is central to changing public policy to work for, and not against, those most vulnerable to climate change, extreme weather events, and sea level rise. We work with partners and allies to collectively leverage our political and economic influence to benefit these communities.
- We are financial stewards of every dollar received from small donors to large grants.
- We live and model the ideals we proclaim as critical to the collective successes in promoting and achieving land/water/cultural preservation.
- We demonstrate respect for, inform the work of others, and celebrate the accomplishments of those persons and organizations with demonstrated intersection in our purpose and values.
- We support the identification and development of emerging marine science professionals, environmentalists, conservationists, and community activists.

**CY 2024\_Strategic Partnerships and Alliances: BoCF Marquee-Level Project Partners, Financial Supporters, and Allies include...**

City of Annapolis Parks & Recreation, National Park Service/Chesapeake Gateways Program, National Trust for Historic Preservation African American Action Fund, Maryland Historic Trust/MHAA, Chesapeake Conservancy, Maryland League of Conservation Voters, The Conservation Fund, Ocean Conservancy, Black in Marine Science, Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County Environment Fund, Chesapeake Bay Foundation/Chesapeake Oyster Alliance, Chesapeake Trust, Chesapeake Legal Alliance, Caucus of African American Leaders, Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area, National Religious Partnership for the Environment, Project W.E.T. (Water Education Today), The Nature Conservancy, Maryland League of Conservation Voters, UMD Center for Environmental Sciences, Maryland Humanities SHINE Grant, private donors, and others.

**Cultural Preservation Partners and Presentations**

**made to** audiences who gathered at area museums to include Capt. Avery Museum, Londontown Museum & Gardens, St. Michael’s Maritime Museum, Historic Annapolis Museum, and others.

**CuPublic Policy, Legislative Advocacy, and Political Support. Public policy shapes incentives and disincentives drive public behaviors. Public policy**

**drives funding priorities.** It is an essential lever to advance environmental justice and other citizen priorities. To this end, BoCF engages with political leaders of both major parties, support the legislative priorities of like-minded organizations and craft its agenda to secure political support.

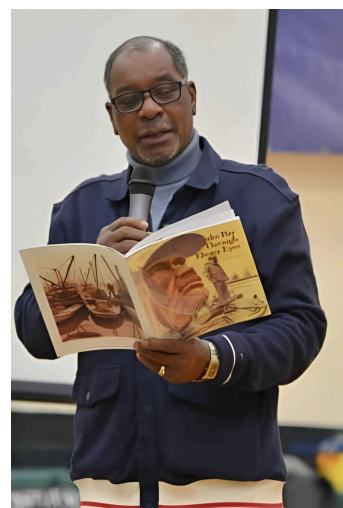
**Notable  
Accomplishments for  
CY ‘23**

- **Improved** and Increased Administrative & Financial Infrastructure
- **Gained** New Partners & Allies: Black in Marine Science, MD League of Conservation Voters, Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner race, UMD Center for Environmental Sciences, and others
- **Met** with the Director/Staff at the White House Council on Environmental Quality
- **Attended** UN Decade of the Ocean in Barcelona Spain with Black in Marine Science (BIMS)
- **Joined** the Ocean Conservancy’s National network of BIPOC Activists
- **Launched** “Nex-Gen EJ Champions”
- Established the Admiral Earl White Endowment
- **Advanced** the Collaboration to the .67-acre Waterfront Moore Property and Cottage
- **Featured** in multiple documentaries

On December 12, 2023, BoCF President & CEO Vince Leggett, Honorary "Admiral of the Bay," received the coveted appointment to serve as Citizen Representative to the Chesapeake Bay Commission from the Maryland House of Delegates, representing the Speaker of the House, the Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, throughout 2024. He continued to "Elevate Black Voices" at the highest levels of regional decision-making across the Chesapeake Bay, its waterways, and water's edge communities.

## BoCF pays tribute to its Founder & CEO, **Vince Leggett**, *"Admiral of the Chesapeake."*

Gone, but Never Forgotten! (06/1953–11/2024).



*Blacks of the Chesapeake President & Founder Vince Leggett, The Conservation Fund Maryland State Director Bill Crouch and Chesapeake Conservancy President & CEO Joel Dunn*





BoCF Salutes our Funders, Supporters, and Program Partners who made this year's  
SUCCESS STORIES **Happen!** *[Logos organized in the order of funds awarded]*

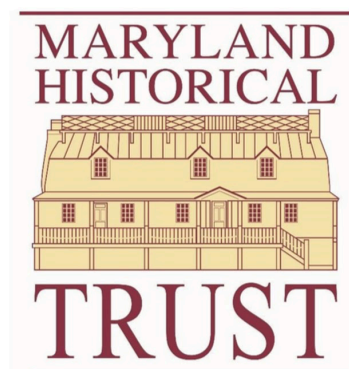


CHESAPEAKE  
**GATEWAYS**  
— Programmatic Partner —



annapolis  
recreation & parks

Healthy Living Starts Here.





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PRESERVATION  
MARYLAND



community foundation  
of anne arundel county



University of Maryland  
CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



NCBW®  
100



## Excerpt from IRS Form 990\_FYE 2024

Schedule O (Form 990) 2022

Page 2

Name of the organization

BLACKS OF THE CHESAPEAKE FOUNDATION INC.

Employer identification number

52-2278700

FORM 990-EZ, PART III, PRIMARY EXEMPT PURPOSE - TO PROVIDE

HISTORICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL EDUCATION.

FORM 990-EZ, PART V, INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACTS:

THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY,  
OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

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OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

FORM 990EZ, PAGE 1:

DURING THE YEAR ENDED APRIL 30, 2023, BLACKS OF THE CHESAPEAKE  
FOUNDATION WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING A \$1.2MILLION LOCAL PARKS AND  
PLAYGROUNDS INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF  
ANNAPOLIS. THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS ACQUIRED 5.16 ACRES WITHIN THE CITY OF  
ANNAPOLIS FOR USE AS A NEW WATERFRONT PARK TO BE KNOWN AS "ELKTONIA  
CARR'S BEACH PARK". AS A RESULT OF THE ACQUISITION, THE UNIMPROVED  
PARCEL WAS PROTECTED FROM DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVED AS A HISTORIAL SITE  
WHERE AFRICAN AMERICANS GATHERED IN THE 1930'S THROUGH THE 1960'S FOR  
CONCERTS BY WORLD-RENOWNED ARTISTS, CULTURAL EVENTS AND FAMILY OUTINGS.  
AFTER PARK DEVELOPMENT IS COMPLETED BY THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS, THE PARK  
WILL PROVIDE UNFETTERED GENERAL PUBLIC ACCESS TO WALKING PATHS AND THE  
BEACH AREA AT THE PARK WHERE VISITORS WILL BE ABLE TO LAUNCH SMALL  
WATERCRAFT SUCH AS KAYAKS, PADDLEBOARDS AND CANOES.



# CONTACT US!



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