

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay
100 Heron Boulevard at Rt 50
Cambridge, MD 21613

Hybrid Meeting Access

[Zoom Link](#)

This meeting will be recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of the meeting notes.

Meeting Goal: Continued learning, discussion and advocacy on the CAC Stewardship & Engagement Subcommittee's September 2022 findings and recommendations on equitable access to grantmaking.

Meeting Objectives: (1) Panel discussion with a selection of Chesapeake Bay funders that administer a mix of state, federal and private money to community organizations. (2) Learn and discuss the Chesapeake Bay Program's (CBP) plans to report on getting to the 2025 goals. (3) Learn and discuss Maryland's progress, successes and challenges in meeting the *Chesapeake Watershed Agreement*.

Day 1: Thursday, February 23 –Terrace Room of the Water's Edge Restaurant

- 11:00 a.m. Call to Order and Welcome.....Julie Lawson, Chair**
- Introduction of members and guests
 - Remote Welcome from CBPO Director, Dr. Kandis Boyd
- 11:05 a.m. CAC Business Meeting**
- Approval of December Meeting Minutes
 - Decisional Votes
 - Committee Vice Chair
 - Bylaws revisions on member qualifications
 - Chair Updates
 - Brief Member Announcements
 - (John Dawes) Briefing on Conowingo Dam Lawsuit
- 11:30 a.m. Member Spotlights**
- 10-minute presentation on a member's background, what they do, a highlighted project and what inspires or gives hope about their work.
- Verna Harrison
 - Kate Patton
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch in the meeting room**
- 12:45 p.m. Local Watershed Context from ShoreRivers.....Isabel Hardesty Executive Director
Matt Pluta, Choptank Riverkeeper**
- Watershed history, demographics and land use
 - Unique challenges and upcoming opportunities

CAC Stewardship & Engagement Priority: Equitable Access to Grants

The Objective:

Learn from Chesapeake Bay funders how they address DEIJ in their grantmaking and discuss key topics of proposal design, grant review and capacity building identified by community organizations and CAC members in the September 2022 Panel on Equitable Access to Grants and the subsequent report of findings and recommendations.

Panelists:

[Kacey Wetzel](#)

Vice President of Programs for Outreach & Education

[Chesapeake Bay Trust](#)

[Jamie Baxter](#)

Program Director

[Chesapeake Bay Funders Network](#)

Joe Toolan

Manager, Chesapeake Bay Programs

[National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

1:30 p.m. Part One: Opening Remarks and Proposal Design

Brief overview of approaches for DEIJ in their grantmaking, including answers to:

- (1) Discuss your approach to connect with and support small community organizations in:
 - a. designing funding proposals
 - b. building community awareness of funding opportunities
 - c. assist in determining the needs and resources for grant management (insurance, accounting, etc...
- (2) Do you meet with prospective grantees to honestly discuss the viability of their proposal concepts prior to submission? Are requests like these viewed favorably?
 - a. assisting with grant writing
 - b. building community ownership in local projects
 - c. assisting with project design
- (3) What challenges have you identified as barriers to funding small frontline community organizations and how have you changed your operations to eliminate those barriers? Do you have internal mechanisms for accountability toward those changes?
- (4) *Time permitting:* What are the sources of funds that support your grantmaking? Describe any restrictions associated with different funding sources. Do those restrictions limit your grant applicant pool?

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Part Two: Proposal Review and Capacity Building

Continued Questions with the Panelists

(5) From your perspective, how do you define capacity building? How do you help build and support the capacity of small community organizations? How do you measure the community benefit and impact of grants?

(6) Discuss your process for grant proposal reviews. Are members of the community where projects are proposed included in the review process? How do you prepare or train your review teams? Do your review teams represent a diversity of perspectives?

(7) How do you track the kinds of groups or organizations that receive funding? What percentage would you estimate your grants are serving BIPOC communities? What percentage are led-by BIPOC organizations? Are frontline community organizations funded directly or are they typically subcontracted through larger organizations ? Is continued support offered during and after the grant has ended?

(8) *Time Permitting:* Based on the CAC Report of findings and recommendations from the September 2022 Panel on Equitable Access, are there recommendations that you think are too difficult to implement? Why? Do you think your answer could change in 1-2 years?

Panel and Committee Discussion

3:45 p.m. Panel Concludes and Break

4:00 p.m. Subcommittee Break-out Sessions

5:00 p.m. Meeting Recess

6:30 p.m. Dinner Onsite- Loblolly private room in Water's Edge Restaurant

Day 2: Friday, February 24 –Skipjack Room

8:00 a.m. Breakfast in the meeting room

8:30 a.m. Meeting Reconvenes

- General reflections on Day 1 Discussion
- Brief subcommittee reports

**9:00 a.m. Chesapeake Bay Program Updates.....[Martha Shimkin](#)
Deputy Director, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program**

- Getting to 2025 and Beyond
- Scope of Work for consultants contracted to implement the Chesapeake Bay Program's DEI Implementation Plan
- Goal Implementation Team (GIT) funding purpose, process and examples of successful projects

- 9:45 a.m. Break
- 10:00 a.m. Maryland's Progress on *Chesapeake Watershed Agreement*.....[Dave Goshorn](#)
 Senior Bay Restoration Coordinator
 MD Department of Natural Resources
- Progress toward meeting Maryland's 2025 Water Quality targets
 - Maryland's successes and challenges in the *Chesapeake Watershed Agreement*
 - Anticipated approaches to acceleration
- 11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:15 a.m. CAC Discussion
 Action Items and Next Steps
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn

CAC 2023 Meeting Dates

May 24-25, Harrisburg, PA following CCWC Conference

September 13-14, DE?

December 6-7, DC or VA

Optional Tour On Your Own

Harriet Tubman Museum and Education Center

The Harriet Tubman Museum offers exhibits and a short film about Tubman's life, as well as a resource area.

Hours of Operation: 12pm-3pm

Approx. 10 min drive from hotel

Admission is free, but donations are welcome

Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center (MD Park and NPS)

The Tubman Visitor Center features 10,000 square feet of engaging, enlightening multimedia exhibits about her life. 17 acres park system; adjacent to Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge visitor center. Ranger-led welcome and introduction to life of Harriet Tubman (10 min, then self-guided tour)

Hours of Operation: 10am-4pm

Approx. 20 min drive from hotel

Admission is free, but donations are welcome