

# CHESAPEAKE *Youth* INITIATIVE



Chesapeake

in partnership with:



**Chesapeake Bay Program**  
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

# OUR TEAM

Montserrat Pizarro, NPS Community Volunteer  
Ambassador

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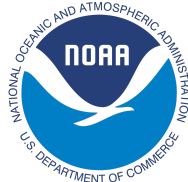
Olivia Wisner, CRC Stewardship GIT Staffer

Shannon Sprague, NOAA Manager of Environmental Literacy & Partnerships


Elise Trelegan, NOAA Chesapeake B-WET Program Coordinator



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# What is the Chesapeake Youth Initiative?



A word cloud centered around the theme of youth engagement and leadership. The words are arranged in a circular pattern around the central text 'Youth Voice'. The words are color-coded: orange for career, ladder, policy, leadership, and stewardship; purple for peer, network, and enthusiasm; yellow for advocacy; green for ambassador, Environmental Literacy, and Diversity; blue for community; and red for fresh perspective. The word 'mentorship' is in red, 'engagement' is in yellow, and 'Diversity' is in purple.

career ladder  
engagement peer  
advocacy policy  
Diversity  
Youth Voice  
fresh perspective  
mentorship community ambassador  
Environmental Literacy  
leadership network  
stewardship

# DIVERSITY

to identify stakeholder groups that are not currently represented in the leadership, decision-making and implementation of conservation and restoration activities and **create meaningful opportunities and programs to recruit and engage them in the Bay Program's efforts.**

Our strategies and actions fall under four approaches:

1. Enhance communication and outreach with **underrepresented stakeholders**
2. **Create and expand employment opportunities** for underrepresented individuals and communities by **strengthening connections to existing resources and creating new avenues for career building**
3. Promote **environmental justice through the meaningful involvement** and fair treatment of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin or income, in the implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement
4. **Advance diversity, equity, inclusion and justice** in all aspects of organizational culture and work

# ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

Enable students in the region to graduate with the knowledge and skills to act responsibly to protect and restore their local watershed.

# Who is participating this pilot year?



**12 Mentors**

Number of Chesapeake Bay Program staff committed



**4 Student Leadership Programs**

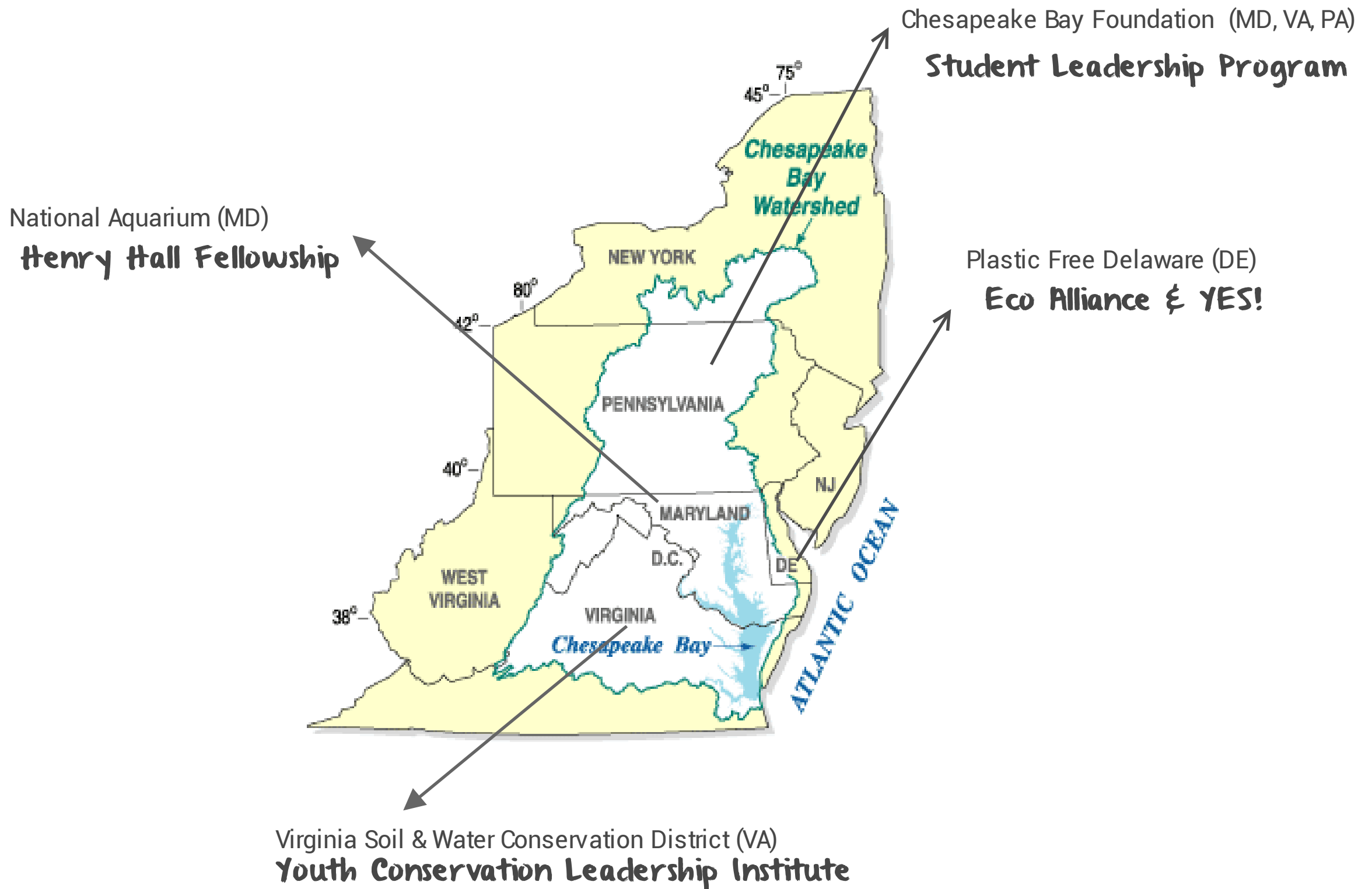
Number of partner organizations nominating students



**16 Student Ambassadors**

Number of high school students to participate in pilot year

# PROGRAMS



# GIT <-> CORE GROUPS

## **Sustainable Fisheries**

Kristin Saunders & Mike Bednarski

Neha Veeragandham  
Khloe Brooks  
Sara Cho

1



## **Water Quality & Toxic Contaminants**

Sally Claggett & Julie Lawson

Kiersten Brooks  
Erica Hong  
Isadora Marquez

2



## **Vital Habitats & Species**

Laura Catlett Noll, Stephen Faulkner  
& Suzanne Sullivan

Marissa McDine  
Maria McDonald  
Emma Evans

3



## **Conservation & Public Access**

Debbie Herr Cornwell, Norah Jackson,  
& Julie Mawhorter

Natalie Yang  
Emma deGarbolewski  
Emma Bisson

4



## **Climate Resiliency**

Allison Breitenother & Trystan Sill

Claire Conner  
Maniyah Clark  
Arielle Flaherty  
Isabella Erber

5



# NEXT STEPS

