

# NFWF's Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund (CBSF) Primary Goals and Objectives



**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**

Chesapeake Bay Business Plan

August 2012 (Revised August 2018)

Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund | 1

1. Improve WATER QUALITY via sediment & nutrient reductions by 2025
2. Restore and protect **key species** and their **habitats**
3. Foster engaged and **diverse citizen and stakeholder action**

Chesapeake Bay Business Plan  
NFWF's blueprint for what it funds & why

# Innovative Nutrient & Sediment Reduction (INSR) Grant

## Projects that have:

- Multiple partners and are an existing, successful or emerging collaborative AND
- An agreed upon path forward to INCREASE water quality benefits for a particular practice or place (a region as opposed to a small, single watershed), AND
- There are NEW ways, or new-to-the multi-partner team ways, to ACCELERATE water quality outcomes.



Photo: The Nature Conservancy's Wetlands Acceleration Partnership, A. Jacobs

# UVA's Institute of Engagement & Negotiation

Emerging Characteristics of Ecosystem  
Collaboratives that

*May Be Important* Factors of Success

- Communication
- Culture & Values
- Learning & Development
- Conflict Management
- Use of Data and Science
- Extent of Collaboration
- Collaborative Process
- Collaborative Outcomes
- Funding



# Ranked Emerging Characteristics into 4 Factors of Success that are linked to collaboratives.

MOTIVATION

*Factors that Inspire and Sustain Engagement*

CAPACITY

*Factors that Empower Collaboratives*

EFFECTIVE PROCESS

*Factors that Facilitate Collaboration*

EVALUATION

*Factors that Advance Effectiveness & Impact  
Over Time*

# **In practice: why would we want collaboratives?**

**1**

**Access to more resources**

**2**

**Coordinate existing resources, over a  
larger landscape**

**3**

**Ambition, creativity, innovation**

# Jodi Rose, Executive Director Interfaith Partners of the Chesapeake

Jodi graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Biochemistry and worked in the environmental consulting field for 15 years managing soil and groundwater remediation projects and later running her own consulting firm. As a volunteer in her Catholic parish in Indiana, she spearheaded several environmental and social justice programs that engaged fellow parishioners to live out their faith in action. It was during this time that Jodi discovered her passion of working at the intersection of faith and environment.

As ED, she has grown the organization's impact on watershed restoration through attention to building effective, outcome-oriented collaborative approaches. She serves on the board of Defensores de la Cuenca and on the advisory board of the Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coalition. She is a past member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

# Network of Networks

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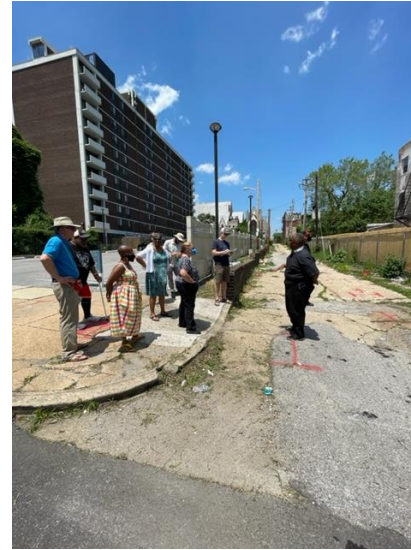
- Geographical Hubs – what is a hub?
- Operate independently but share resources and learning
  - Technical partners learn from each other
  - IPC infrastructure/capacity (ex: Airtables, Listservs)
  - Congregational task forces
- Collective impact greater than the sum of the parts



# How Practices Get in the Ground

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- Green Team training to build leadership capacity
  - 170 teams trained since 2019
- Menu for Action
- Technical Assistance Partners
- Funding - government
- Impacts thus far
  - 48 projects
  - 38,000 people reached
  - 2,075 volunteers
  - 28+ acres of projects
  - All NFWF grant goals exceeded



# Scaling for Sustainable Impact

- Baltimore → Multi-Hubs → ...and beyond
- More focus on shared goals among stakeholders, less emphasis on increasing metrics
- Deepened partnerships, not more metrics
- Innovative funding models that lift the broader community, not just advance projects
- Using GIS to identify projects that address multiple issues at once



## Collaborative Health

### Evaluating our own collaborative's "vital signs"

- Strong and Capable Leadership
- Strategic Vision
- Clear Roles
- Consistent and Broad Communication
- Effective Implementation
- Mutual Trust



# Allyson Ladley Gibson, Executive Director, Lancaster Clean Water Partners

Allyson facilitates collaboration between a unique set of multi-sector partners throughout Lancaster County and its many municipal divisions who are working to improve local water quality.

Allyson spent her childhood in Lancaster County, exploring streams, investigating local culture, and growing up in her family's business. She pioneered at the University of Richmond as the only female member of the first class of environmental studies majors and then spent 13 years in Maryland with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in their Education Department. She returned to her roots and served as the Innkeeper at Kitchen Kettle Village before bringing all of her worlds together with the Lancaster Clean Water Partners. Allyson received the Business Partner Award from the 21st Century Education Foundation in 2015 and she recently served on the comprehensive planning team at Manheim Township School District.

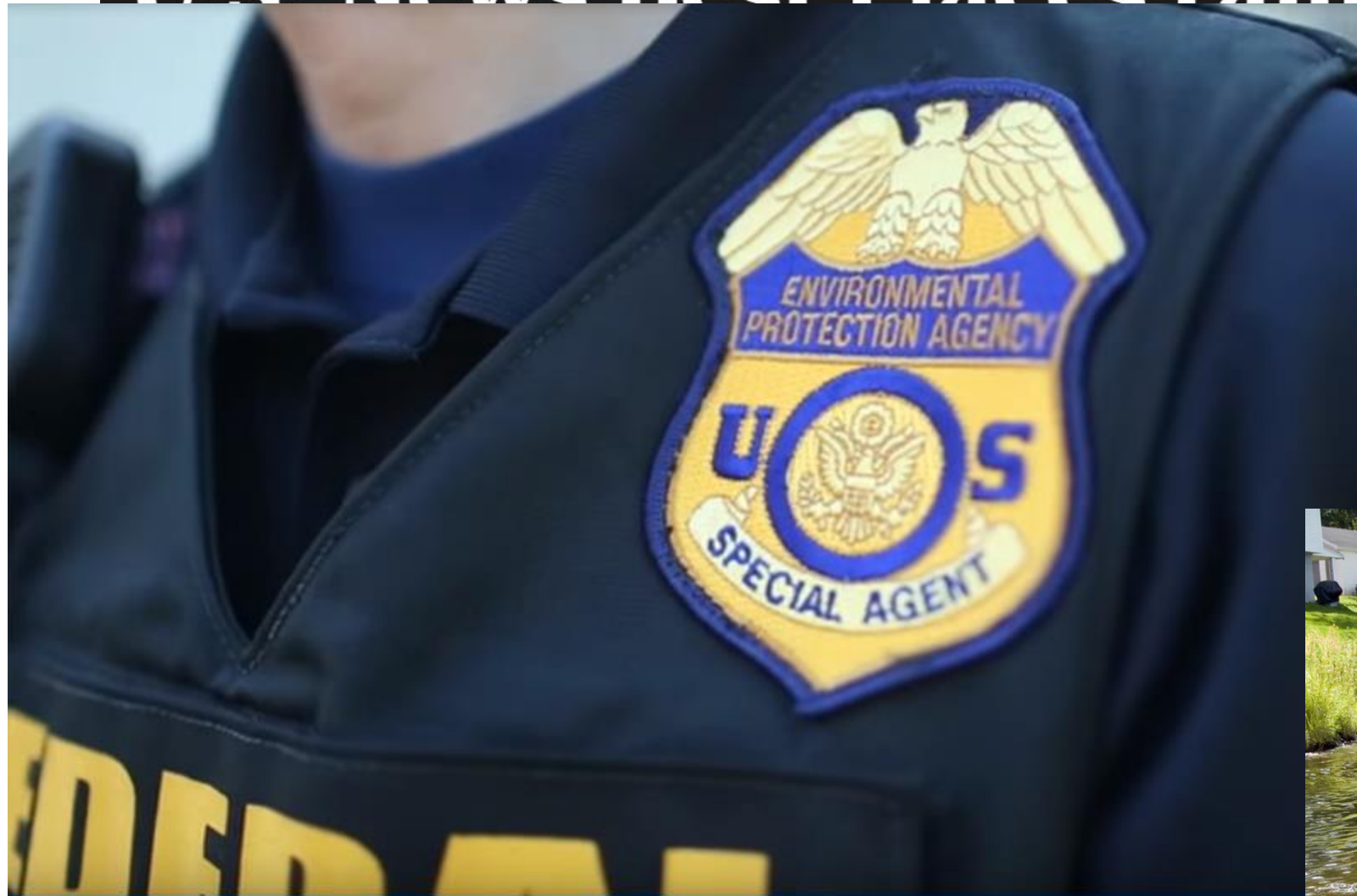
# Pennsylvania's State Constitution states...



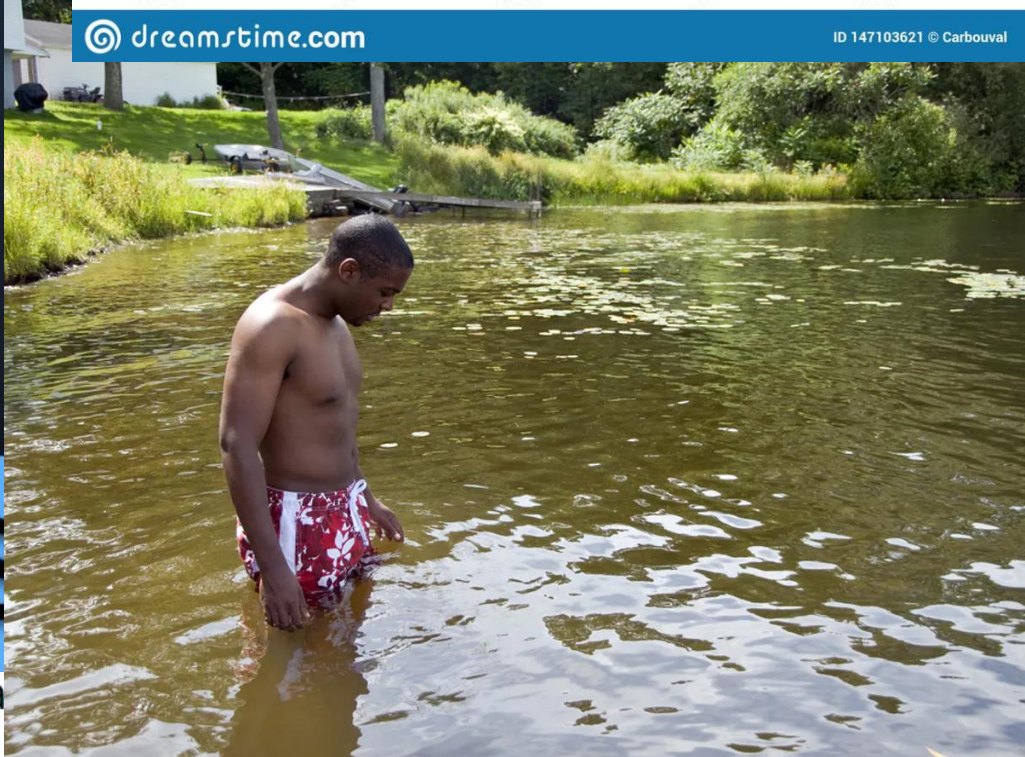
“...the people have the right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment.”

*– Article I, Section 27*





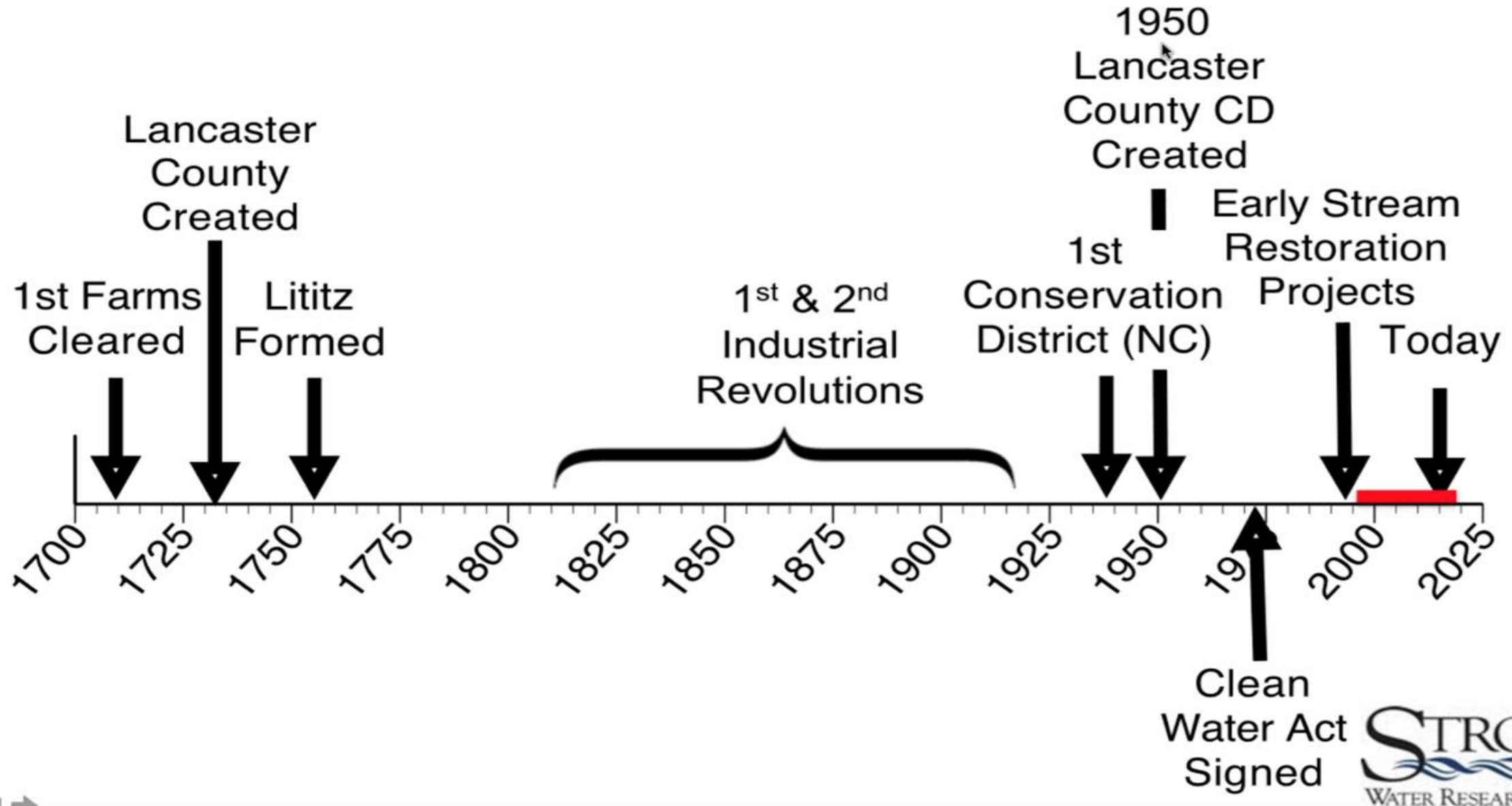
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# Investigations

residents, affordability for housing, tax rates and quality of health care

# Lancaster County History



## Get the “who” before the “what” or “how”

“The most critical factor by far is an *influential champion* (or small group of champions) who commands the respect necessary to bring CEO-level cross-sector leaders together and keep their active engagement over time. We have consistently seen the importance of dynamic leadership in catalyzing and sustaining collective impact efforts.”

– **Stanford Social Innovation Review**



# 1 Tool That Pushed Our Progress - Common Agenda



**A shared vision** of clean and clear water in Lancaster County by 2040.

**Our shared mission** is to rapidly accelerate and expand the ability of the partner organizations to restore and sustain healthy Lancaster County waterways.

**The Common Agenda outlines how we'll get there.**





**BUILDING YOUR DIVERSE & EQUITABLE  
COLLABORATIVE TABLE**

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## Our Values

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### **Collaboration not duplication**

Success comes from elevating partner organizations, not from duplication of efforts and competition.



### **Operate with a bias towards action**

We value on-the-ground work, and results that create momentum for innovative solutions to community problems.



### **Trust**

The Partners was created by community members for community members and our grassroots approach inspires trust in the community.



### **Clean and clear water for all**

Equal access to justice and clean water are human rights. Our collaborative work amplifies the diverse voices in our community.



### **Transparency**

We tell the truth in a way people can verify and declare our intent. We operate truthfully with genuine openness and authenticity.



The entire community  
is working on the **same goal** at the **same time** -  
to improve our local water quality

# Christine Gyovai, Principal, Dialogue + Design Associates Facilitator, James River Riparian Buffer Consortium

Christine Gyovai is a professional facilitator, coach, and expert in building resilient communities. Through her work as the Principal of Dialogue + Design Associates and host of the Yes! We Rise podcast, she guides civic leaders and community members to envision a more sustainable future and come together to make that vision a reality. A recipient of the Paul Dulaney Conservation Award, Christine has spent the last 20 years facilitating change nationally with a focus on Central Appalachia and the Chesapeake Bay.

The granddaughter of a coal miner and a firefly scientist, she uses skills that include consensus-building, community planning, permaculture design and mindfulness practices. Christine loves sailing, yoga and paddleboarding, and she lives at the base of the Blue Ridge mountains in Virginia with her husband, two children, and an assortment of bees and chickens.

# Successful Collaborations in Urban Implementation

April 13th, 2023 - Stormwater Retreat

Christine Gyovai - Dialogue + Design Associates



DIALOGUE  
+ DESIGN  
ASSOCIATES

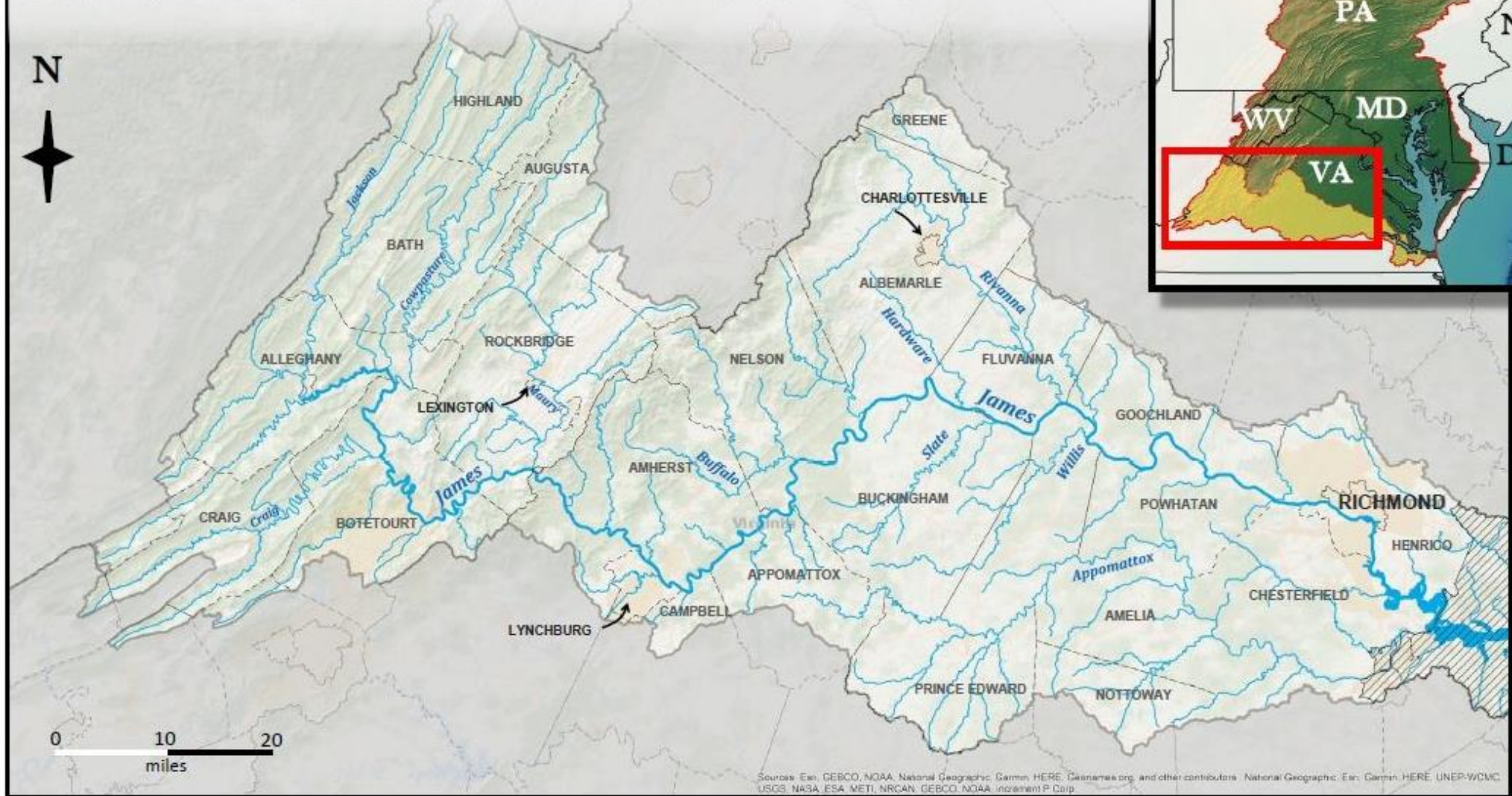
# OUR VISION

**Growing partnerships** to create healthy streamside ecosystems for clean water in the James River today and tomorrow.



Riparian  
Consortium

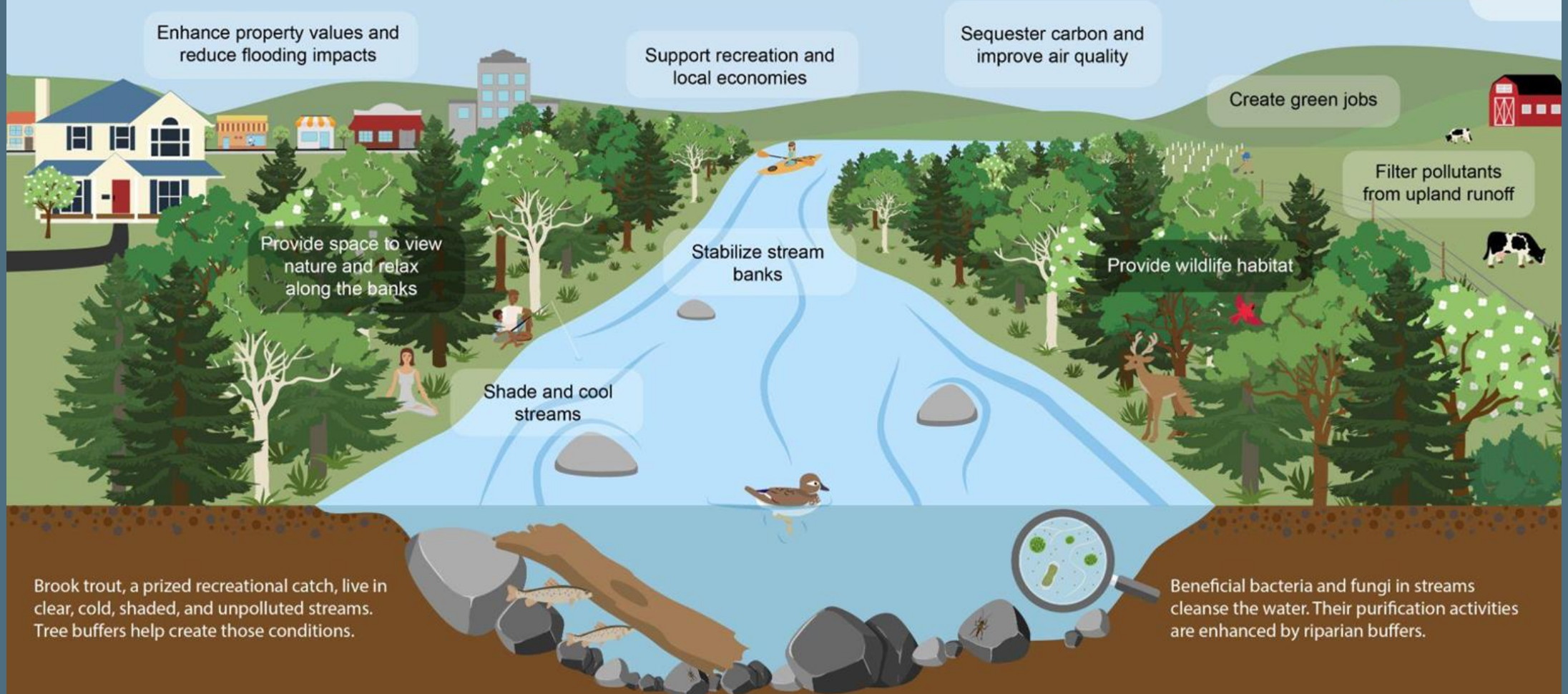
# UPPER AND MIDDLE JAMES RIVER WATERSHED



# Our Geography



Riparian buffers, or corridors of vegetation along creeks and rivers, provide a variety of benefits to water quality and our communities.



# Our Focus

# Our Mission + Values

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## MISSION

The Upper and Middle James Riparian Consortium is to support a network of partners to raise awareness, build workforce capacity, and increase implementation of riparian forest buffers across the Upper and Middle James watersheds through collaboration.

## VALUES



### Collaboration

We can go further together and seek opportunities to support, collaborate with, and learn from diverse partners both within and outside the James River watershed.



### Holistic

We integrate practices such as livestock exclusion fencing, streambank stabilization, grass and forest buffers, and conservation easements that respond to landowner, landscape, and habitat needs.



### Stewardship

We care for our existing riparian buffers and believe that stewardship is vital to sustained improvements in water quality and successful buffers.



### Initiative

We are proactive and take initiative to create solutions that respond to the needs of Consortium partners and our streamside ecosystems for long-term health of the James River and our communities.



# A Watershed of Partners

## Planning Team



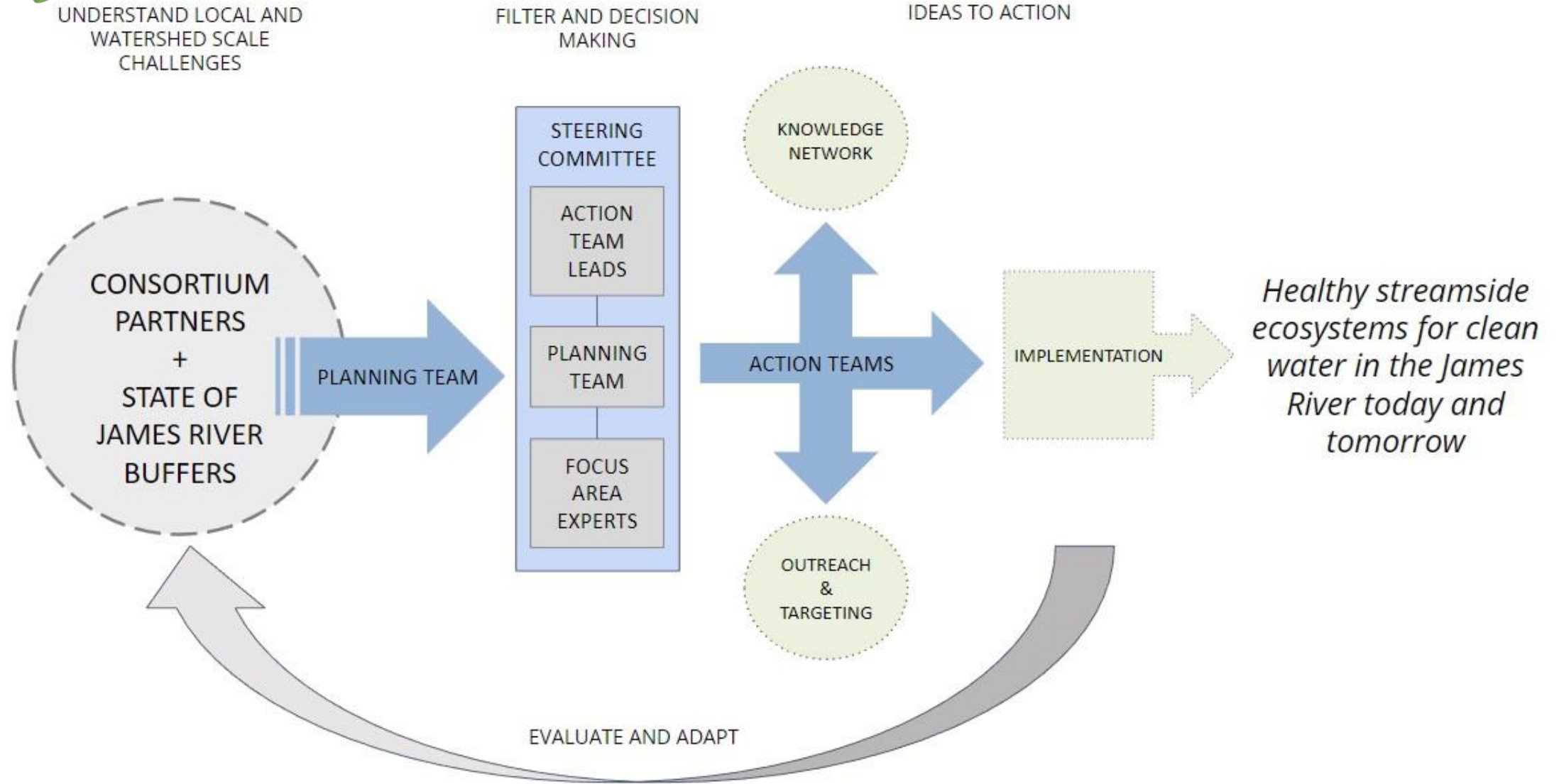
## Steering Committee

## 300+ Members

Blue Ridge PRISM, Planning District Commissions, Capital Region Land Conservancy, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, EPA, Localities, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Center for Watershed Protection, Chesapeake Conservancy, Blue Ridge Land Conservancy, Boxerwood Nature Center, Central Virginia Land Conservancy, Virginia Outdoors Foundation, Conservation Services, Inc., Wetlands Watch, Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Piedmont Environmental Council, Twinleaf Native Plant Nursery



# Our Structure



# Four models for collaboratives to consider for their long-term future



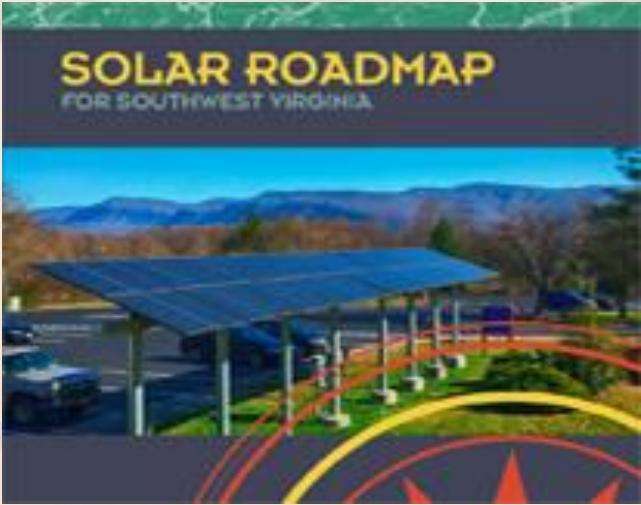
1. **A Significant Shift in Network Structure**
2. **Maintain ongoing support of a backbone organization**
3. **A convener, member or lead organization(s) is the primary facilitator, coordinator, connector, and at times fiscal manager for the network**
4. **A Rotating Self-Leadership Model**

## Developing a Resilient Collaborative Model for the Consortium in 2023

February 8th	Opening discussion, brainstorming
March 8th:	Share out draft strategies for feedback
<b>April 12th:</b>	<b>Focus on Strategy 1 (Collaboration)</b>
May 16th:	Focus on Strategy 2 (Action)
June 14th:	Focus on Strategy 3 (Funding)
Sept 12th:	Refinement of Model Strategies and Discussion
Oct 11th:	Final Resilient Model



# The collective is more effective





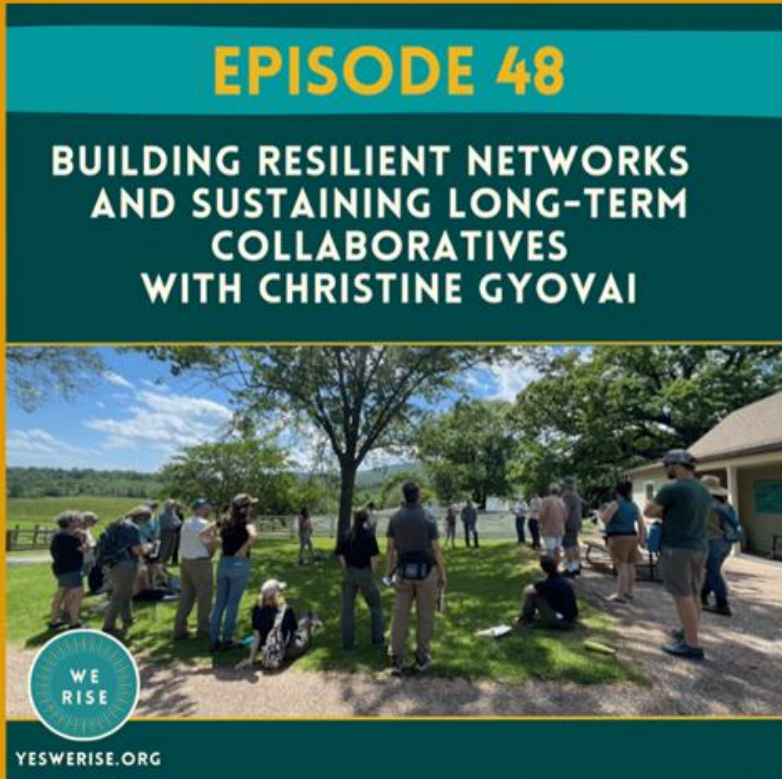
YES! WE RISE  
WITH CHRISTINE GYOVAI

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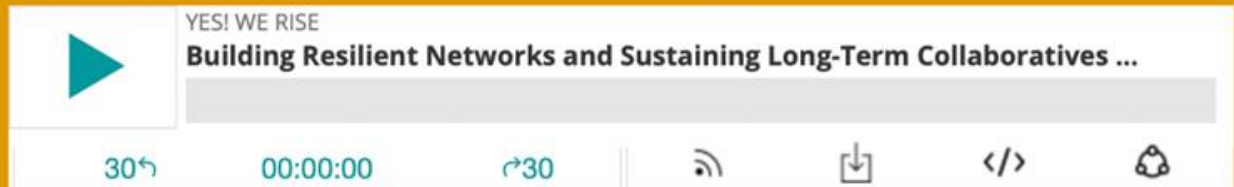
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Episode 48:

# Building Resilient Networks and Sustaining Long-Term Collaboratives with Christine Gyovai



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# Triads!

Q1 What did you hear from the Collaborative-Leads that resonates with you in respect to your work with collaborative building or partnerships you're cultivating?

Q2 What overarching questions do you have for the panelists or for other Collaborative-Leads?

# Connectivity Scale for Network Analysis

0	<b>No connection</b>	I have not met this person [organization].
1	<b>Connected</b>	I have met this person, but we are not in communication with one another.
2	<b>Communicating</b>	We regularly communicate with one another (for ex: by talking to each other directly or by sharing information, ideas, or data)
3	<b>Coordinating</b>	We coordinate our individual efforts to advance shared goals (for ex., by leveraging each other's resources and expertise, providing peer assistance, or attending each other's meetings) - but we maintain separate resources and responsibilities.
4	<b>Collaborating</b>	We work in partnership to advance shared goals (for example, by combining resources, making shared decisions, or creating something together).