

2018

ANNUAL REPORT

ACCOKEEK
FOUNDATION

3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek MD
www.accokeekfoundation.org

301-283-2113
info@accokeek.org

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

2018—the 50th anniversary of the dedication of Piscataway Park—was a year of change for the Accokeek Foundation. Transitions are great opportunities to re-evaluate, and there's been a lot of soul searching at the Accokeek Foundation this year.

As the new President and CEO, I've been thinking about the past and where the future can take us. Since I began serving at the Foundation in 2004, I've been fortunate to work alongside many who love Piscataway Park and who have helped move us to where we are today as a Foundation.

This landscape tells the story of generations of change, as the land has shaped people and people have shaped the land, over time. The land was saved from development in the 1950s to “preserve the view” from George Washington’s Mount Vernon across the Potomac River. But the significance of the landscape goes far beyond its value for viewshed preservation. “Preserving the view” also preserved the heart of the traditional homeland of the Piscataway people. It preserved a landscape that carries the stories of European contact and colonization, and stories that take place against the backdrop of slavery and emancipation, Jim Crow, the Civil Rights Movement, and the American Indian Movement.

In 2018, the Accokeek Foundation Board of Trustees adopted a new set of organizational values to guide our work. We recognize that the conversations we need to have about our history and our future are complex and challenging. We're committed to encouraging dialogue that's respectful and accountable, as well as compassionate and honest. We began reaching out to partners in the community as part of an interpretive planning project. Through this project, we hope we can build trust and offer a more authentic story of this landscape—one that welcomes all visitors and helps us connect more deeply with each other and with this land.

We cannot do this without you, so thank you for investing in our work and most importantly for committing to sharing, listening, and learning from one another.

Sincerely,



Laura Ford
President and CEO



ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

The Accokeek Foundation seeks to inspire people to care about the environment by connecting people to the landscape of Piscataway Park. We honor the indigenous people and values that shaped this land. Our interpretation explores historical and cultural connections to today's trends in agriculture and conservation. We test and demonstrate innovative land management techniques designed to regenerate healthy soils, protect water, and enhance air quality. We engage individuals and communities in action to better protect and restore the natural environment and create a secure, just, and sustainable food system. Our educational programs are designed to prepare people for academic pursuits, employment, and community leadership, and to enhance the health and well-being of our region's residents and environment.



We are invested in creating a transparent, positive culture that values responsibility and integrity and that inspires staff, board, collaborators, and the community to become invested in the Foundation's work. We believe that our work achieves relevancy through diversity and inclusion. We seek to be a safe and open space for all races, ethnicities, national origins, ages, sexual orientations, gender identity, beliefs, religions, faiths and ideologies, cultures, socioeconomic backgrounds, and levels of physical ability. We support transformational dialogue about historical and cultural realities that have resulted in marginalization. We serve as allies to underserved communities most affected by societal problems, as they lead the efforts to address these challenges. We commit to collaborating for social change, and to discussing ethics, privilege, power, and intention with our partners as we engage in work together.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

In March 2018, Lisa Hayes announced her resignation as President and CEO. During her 10+ years with the Foundation—seven as President—Lisa led transformational initiatives around museum theater and interpretation of Piscataway Park's landscape through an environmental lens and through the lens of Piscataway eyes.

BOARD & EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Virginia Busby, *Chair*
 David Sloan, *Vice Chair*
 James Potts, *Secretary & Treasurer*
 Chris Newman, *Secretary*
 Lisa Hayes, *President (through March)*
 Laura Ford, *Interim President*
 Anjela Barnes, *Vice President*
 Bill Crouch
 Megan Dunn

Andrew Fellows
 J. Philip Gottwals
 Myra McGovern
 Judy Meade
 Denise D. Meringolo
 Eugene B. Roberts, Jr.
 Vincent Rotondaro
 Yvette J. Snowden
 Barry Szczesny

EDUCATION

Education lies at the heart of our mission to cultivate a passion for the natural and cultural heritage of Piscataway Park and commitment to stewardship and sustainability.

This year, our education opportunities included:

- In-park experiences for a total of 4,469 students from Maryland
- Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences about native wild rice for 800 middle school students from 19 schools, in partnership with Prince George's County William S. Schmidt Outdoor Education Center
- An American Indian Heritage Day for Title 6 students, in partnership with the Piscataway-Conoy tribe
- Teacher mentoring for nine teachers from six schools in Prince George's County
- A "National Park Prescription Day" connecting productive agricultural "activity," connections to the land, and soil health with holistic human health benefits

1,500

TITLE 1 STUDENTS FROM MARYLAND

The education team served twice as many Title 1 students during 2018 as in previous years. Twenty-one Title 1 schools from Maryland alone participated in Eco-Explorers.

59

EDUCATORS TRAINED

In addition to Teacher Institute mentoring, we partnered with Mount Vernon and Living the American Indian Experience to offer professional development highlighting local indigenous communities.

11

ACC STUDENTS

Eleven local high school students interned in Piscataway Park through the Agriculture Conservation Corps (ACC) program. ACC alumni, like Tyler Reid and James Pinkney, have gone on to pursue careers in agriculture and conservation.





COMMUNITY

A rising tide lifts all boats, and on the 50th anniversary of Piscataway Park, we found success through the strength of our partnerships and support from our neighbors.

Partners who dedicated their most precious resource—time—included the Wounded Warrior Project, Team Rubicon, the United States Naval Academy, Cerenity Inc., the Community Bank of the Chesapeake, Jack and Jill of America (National Harbor Chapter), and the University of Maryland's Pre-Vet Society.

Amidst threats to the viewshed this year, the Foundation worked with citizen activists and partners, including Mount Vernon, the National Park Service, the Moyaone Association, the Piscataway and the Alice Ferguson Foundation, to ensure that the historic view from Mount Vernon and the indigenous cultural landscape of Piscataway Park were preserved.

After four summers of hosting the Agriculture Conservation Corps program for high school students, the Foundation received an "Outstanding Partner" award from the Prince George's County Youth@Work Summer Youth Enrichment Program.

430

VOLUNTEERS

In 2018, volunteers donated over 2,000 hours of service to the mission worth over \$56,000. Volunteers included active-duty military members, veterans, civilians, and students.

50

YEARS OF NATIONAL PARK STEWARDSHIP

Dedicated in 1968, 2018 marked the 50th anniversary of Piscataway Park. That's 50 years of partnership with the National Park Service to protect a landscape with over 10,000 years of human history.

5

HEWES APPLE TREES

Brewed using apples collected from the National Colonial Farm's heritage Hewes crab apple trees, DC cidery ANXO released a small batch of "National Colonial Farm Heritage Cider" to support restoration of the orchard.

HERITAGE LIVESTOCK

For the Heritage Breed Livestock Conservation program, 2018 will be a year to remember.

Thanks to two sows from Sylvanaqua Farms and a boar on loan from Mount Vernon, the Foundation welcomed its first litter of Ossabaw hogs born in the park in over ten years.

Livestock is once again part of the Prince George's County's 4-H program with the inception of a new 4-H Club in Piscataway Park, serving 20 youth members without access to animals or farm land.

And the Stitch 'n Time volunteer club dedicated more than 500 hours to processing wool from the Foundation's Hog Island sheep flock. Their hand-spun yarn allows fiber artists a rare opportunity to work with wool from this endangered breed.



20

4-H MEMBERS

A new 4-H livestock club, in partnership with the University of Maryland Extension Office, teaches youth how to care for and show heritage breed livestock as they learn the essentials of animal husbandry.

40+

RARE BREEDS BORN IN PISCATAWAY PARK

Throughout the spring and summer, the barnyard saw the addition of 17 Hog Island lambs, 16 Ossabaw hog piglets, 7 American Milking Devon calves, and dozens of heritage breed poultry chicks and poults.

6

FARMS RAISING HERITAGE BREEDS

In March, the Foundation hosted the inaugural meeting of the Tidewater Agricultural Network and talked collaboration with Mount Vernon, Colonial Williamsburg, George Washington's Birthplace, St. Mary's City, and York Town.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

\$15,000+

Chesapeake Bay Trust
Clark-Winchcole Foundation
Gene & Lynn Roberts
Mount Vernon Ladies Association of
the Union
Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz
Foundation
National Park Foundation
National Park Service

\$5,000+

Corina Higginson Trust
MGM National Harbor
Maryland Humanities
MOM's Organic Market
Pepco, an Exelon Company
Preservation Maryland
Wells Fargo
Wilton Corkern & Mary Bruce Batte

\$1,000+

Betsy & Wick Cromwell
Bill Crouch
James & Barbara Potts
Jim Thompson
Nancy Dodge
Nanette Fremont & Rita Bergman
National Environmental Education
Foundation
National Harbor
Old Line Bank
Paul & Barbara Livingston
Phil Gottwals
Robert Killen
SMECO
Washington Gas

\$500+

Charlene Dukes
Dick Krueger
Dick Riddell & Anne Fortney
Daughters of the American
Revolution, Harmony Hall
G.S. Proctor & Associates, Inc.
Grace Liddy
John & Linda Derrick
Judy Meade
K&M Contracting
Kevin Tucker & Denise Meringolo
Megan Dunn
Ted Manekin & Lisa Hayes

\$100+

Andrew & Elizabeth Fellows
Anne Stokes & William Richardson
Barbara Spohn
Beth Groth
Bill & Grace Thrift
Bill & Janet Parker
Bill Cole & Virginia Morton
Carol Randell
Carolyn LeCrone
Chas Offutt & Meghan Stewart
Christa Lyons
Christina Forbes
Cliff George
Deborah Listman Ward
Donna Schneider
Donna Warren
Douglas MacCleery
Douglas Mintz
Elizabeth Stewart
Farm Heritage Conservancy
Frank Bevacqua
Geoff White
George Owings
Ginny Singer
Jacqueline Moore
James & Barbara Egan
Janet Alger & Lisa Smith

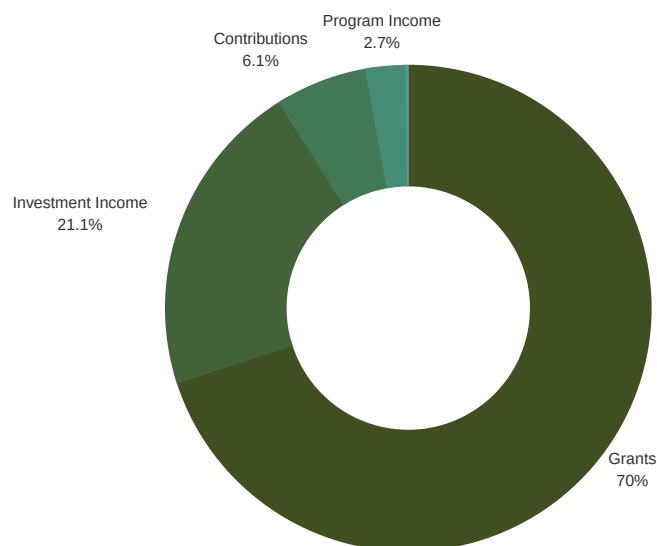
Janice Steiner
Jere Gibber & J.G. Harrington
Jesse Oakley
Joe and Peggy DeStefanis
John Prewitt
John Wright
Joseph & Rebecca Briggs
JoVita Wells
Joyce Freundel
Karen Hoagberg
Kristin Sinkins
Laura Ford
Lee Mintz
Leonard Sacks
Lewis Vaughn
Lydia Kovacs
Mae Ngai
Marilyn Randall
Marney Bruce
Mathew Schwaller & Sheryl Romeo
Matthew Hallett
Michael Williams & Drue Pearce
Milton & Alice Ahlerich
Mitchell & Mona Dixon
Myra McGovern
Nancy Bhargava
Patricia S. Smith
Rand & Frances Rensvold
Rebecca & Ronald Pollack
Rebekah Humphrey-Sewell
Roger & Sandra Stephon
Sally Lowe
Sharyn Gantt
Shirley Fiske
Skip & Johanna Vaughan
Sylvia Livingston
Tanta-Cove Garden Club
Virginia Busby & John Eddins
Vivian Mills
Wallace Lowe
William & Janet Legg
William Thompson
Wilson & Nancy Coudon
Zeno St. Cyr II



Financials

REVENUE

Grants	\$868,778
Investment Income	\$261,841
Contributions	\$75,742
Program Income	\$33,205
In-Kind	\$2,194
Total Revenues	\$1,241,760



EXPENSES

Program Expenses

Education	\$531,593
Resource Stewardship	\$509,166
<i>(now combined with Agriculture)</i>	

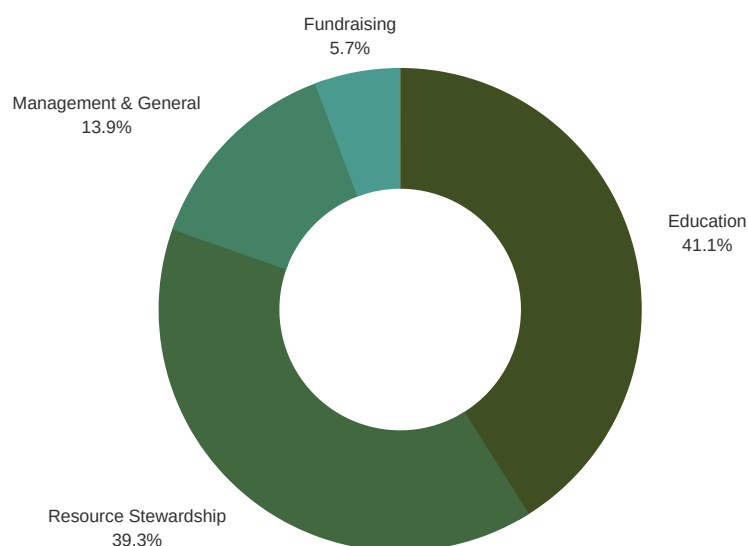
Total Program Services \$1,040,759

Support Services

Management & General	\$179,754
Fundraising	\$74,356

Total Support Services \$254,110

Total Expenses \$1,294,869



Net Assets

Change in Net Assets	(\$53,109)
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$3,467,658
Net Assets, end of year	\$3,414,549

The Accokeek Foundation is a member-supported, non-profit organization that cultivates passion for the natural and cultural heritage of Piscataway Park and commitment to stewardship and sustainability. A partner of the National Park Service, the Foundation stewards 200 acres of Piscataway Park and operates the National Colonial Farm. A copy of the audited financial statement and IRS form 990 is available by calling 301-283-2113.

