Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Mentorship Program

FY 22 Mentorship Program Description

Chesapeake Bay Trust
108 Severn Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403
(410) 974 – 2941 ♦ www.cbtrust.org
Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Mentorship Program

At A Glance

Program Summary:
The Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Mentorship Program is designed to provide support for new applicants during project development and application submission.

Incentives to serve as a Mentor:
- Engage new audiences
- Empower under-engaged organizations
- Have the ability to apply for a mini grant (up to $5,000)
- Broaden your network of volunteers and partnerships

Eligible Mentors:
Organizations who have received four or more grants from any of the Trust’s programs.

Timeline:
The Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Program typically opens July of each fiscal year and operates on a rolling deadline, until funds are exhausted for the fiscal year. Mentor and Mentee grant applications will be accepted on a rolling basis while the Mini Grant Program is open.

Participation:
Email Kathy Somoza if you would like to participate in the Mentorship Program as a Mentor. Potential Mentors will be advertised on the Trust’s website to organizations who are seeking assistance.

Contact:
Kathy Somoza at (410) 974-2941 ext. 120 or ksomoza@cbtrust.org

Table of Contents

Introduction................................................................. 3
Program Goals and the Importance of Diversity and Inclusion................................................................. 3
Guidelines to the Mentorship Program....................... 3
FAQs.............................................................................. 4
Appendix A: Mentorship Program List of Participating Organizations.................................................6
Introduction

The **Chesapeake Bay Trust** (Trust) is a nonprofit, grant-making organization dedicated to improving the bays, streams, rivers, forests, parks, and other natural resources of our local systems, from the Chesapeake to the Coastal Bays to the Youghiogheny River. The Trust, supported in large part by Maryland’s Chesapeake Bay License Plate and partnerships with other regional funders, engages and empowers diverse groups to take actions that enrich natural resources and local communities of the Chesapeake Bay region. Since 1985, the Trust has awarded over $130 million in grants to municipalities, nonprofit organizations, schools, and public agencies throughout Maryland and the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Program Goals and the Importance of Diversity and Inclusion

The Trust seeks to engage new applicants and organizations from a diverse array of communities in small-scale projects that enhance communities, engage residents, and, ultimately, improve natural resources. Among the Trust’s core values are diversity and inclusion: We feel that a broad range of communities can benefit from healthy natural resources, even if their primary focus is on other issues. Human health, the economy, jobs, community livability, education and our children are all connected with a healthy environment. As a result, the Trust is investing in grants primarily to new applicants who have yet to frequently engage with the Trust.

This mentorship program supports the introduction of the grant lifecycle to applicants who may not be experienced in applying for grants. The Trust strives to create a working relationship between organizations who are experienced in grant-writing and project management and those that are new to the Trust's grant programs. It is the Trust’s hope that organizations that have experience with successful applications (four or more), will provide mentorship role to less experienced organizations.

The Trust is committed to the advancement of diversity and inclusion in its award-making and environmental work. As a result, the Trust strongly encourages applications directly from underrepresented groups, and for projects that increase awareness and participation of communities that are traditionally underrepresented, such as communities of color. For a full description of the Trust’s efforts to engage under-engaged groups, see our strategic plan at [www.cbtrust.org/strategic-plan](http://www.cbtrust.org/strategic-plan) and [https://cbtrust.org/diversity-inclusion/](https://cbtrust.org/diversity-inclusion/).

Guidelines to the Mentorship Program

1. Experienced grantees (grantees who have received four or more grants from any of the Trust’s programs) may submit an email indicating areas of expertise and skills they can offer potential Mentees.
2. The Trust will make available a list of potential Mentor organizations to applicants seeking assistance in applying for a Trust Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant. Mentors are not guaranteed a match with a Mentee.
3. The Mentor organization will be expected to make available at least 8 hours, but no more than 20 hours, of time to support a new applicant during project development and application submission.
4. After the Mentee application has been submitted to and approved for funding by the Trust, the Mentor organization will have one year from the date of approval to submit an application for a Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant up to $5,000. During the Trust’s 2022 fiscal year (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022), a Mentor organization **may submit only one mini grant application regardless of how many Mentee organizations the Mentor assists**.
5. Experienced grantees (grantees that have received four or more grants from the Trust) will not be eligible to apply to the Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Program unless they have served as a successful Mentor.

6. Mentor organizations may provide fiscal sponsorship to first-time applicants lacking a bank account in the name of their organization at the time of application. Compensation rates, if any, should be negotiated between the mentor and mentee organization, not to exceed 10% of the direct costs. To better understand the Trust’s definition of and policy on Indirect and Direct Costs, visit our Forms and Policies webpage: [www.cbtrust.org/forms](http://www.cbtrust.org/forms). Mentor and mentee pairs will be required to outline and submit a plan for the mentee organizations to directly apply for Trust grant programs (i.e., receive funds and complete projects) in the future. **Organizations interested in fiscal sponsorship must first contact the Trust.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Mentor is expected to:</th>
<th>The Mentor is not permitted to:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assist with project development.</td>
<td>Be the project manager or complete the project for the Mentee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review the Mentee’s grant proposal during the application process.</td>
<td>Coordinate volunteers for the Mentee’s project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assist Mentee to submit an application via the Trust’s online grant system.</td>
<td>Write the proposal for the Mentee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share with Mentees any lessons learned from past projects.</td>
<td>Complete any reporting on behalf of the Mentee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make available at least 8 hours but no more than 20 hours of time to support the Mentee.</td>
<td>Charge the mentee for mentor services.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FAQs**

**How do I become a mentor?**

Email Kathy Somoza at [ksomoza@cbtrust.org](mailto:ksomoza@cbtrust.org) if your organization meets the requirements outlined in the Guidelines to the Mentorship Program section and would like to participate as a Mentor in the Mentorship Program. Potential Mentors will be advertised on the Trust’s website to organizations who are seeking assistance.

To be added to the list of available mentor organizations, include the following information in your email:

- Name of organization
- Location of organization
- Description of organization
- Skills and services you can offer mentees (what kind of technical assistance or expertise can you offer to the mentee organization during the grant application process?)
- Contact Person (name and email required)

**What should I look for in a mentor organization?**

First-time applicants are encouraged to take advantage of the Mentorship Program as an avenue for network and partnership building, as well as receiving technical assistance in the application stage. The Mentorship List represents a wide variety of organizations and expertise, all of which have been successfully awarded through any of the Trust programs four or more times. Finding the best fit with a mentor organization is important and we encourage you to think about the following questions as you consider mentor organizations to reach out to:
• Is the Mentor organization located geographically close to your organization? This could facilitate in-person site visits and meetings, if needed. If not, are you comfortable with virtual correspondence and site visits?
• Does the Mentor offer technical skills and expertise that align with your project idea?
• Could a partnership with the Mentor organization advance your short- (grant period) and long-term organizational goals?
• Does the Mentor have the capacity to make time available to meet the level of assistance you require? The Mentor is required to make available at least eight hours of mentorship but no more than 20 hours.

*When should I accept a mentorship role?*

We understand that being a Mentor is a time commitment and a significant undertaking. Our goal is to foster productive relationships between new partners. Your offer to be a mentor will be posted widely for the audience of under-engaged potential applicants; as such, we encourage you to think carefully about accepting the role of a Mentor and make sure the best partnership between your organization and a Mentee organization is obtained. If you are contacted, we encourage you to think about the following questions:

• Does the Mentee have a dedicated staff person?
• How many hours is the Mentee willing to commit to a project?
• Do the Mentee have buy-in from Board and constituents to carry out the project?
• Has the Mentee read the Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Program RFP?
• Does the Mentee have access to a computer and other necessary resources?

*When am I eligible to apply for a Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant?*

Your organization is eligible to apply for a Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant (Mini Grant) of your own if and after your Mentee’s Mini Grant application is approved by the Trust. You will then have one year to apply for one Mini Grant for your organization. Your Mentee will be asked on its application to identify whether a Mentor was used, describe the Mentor’s role, and list the amount of time spent with the Mentor. The Trust will evaluate the Mentee’s response to ensure proper mentorship role and will send you an email letting you know that your mentorship duties have been successfully met.
Thank you for your interest in the Community Engagement and Restoration Mini Grant Mentorship Program! In light of the Chesapeake Bay Trust’s commitment to engage new audiences in the environmental community and empower under-engaged organizations, we have created a Mentorship Program to develop working relationships between organizations who are experienced in grant-writing and project management and those that are new to the Trust’s programs. Please click here to learn more about the Mentorship Program.

Below is a growing list of organizations in Maryland who would like to serve as a Mentor to a new applicant. When selecting a Mentor, keep in mind their location, organization mission, and the types of skills they can offer that would best fit the assistance that you want/need. Once you think you have found the right organization, you may directly contact the organization using the provided contact information to begin the program.

Contact the Trust for questions and assistance:
Kathy Somoza at (410) 974-2941 ext. 120 or ksomoza@cbtrust.org.

Mentor List

- Adkins Arboretum
- Annapolis Maritime Museum
- Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy
- Arundel Rivers Federation
- Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS)
- Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT)
- Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway
- Maryland Water Monitoring Council
- Olde Severna Park Improvement Association
- Pigtown Main Street
- Potomac Conservancy
- ShoreRivers
- St. Mary’s College of Maryland
- The 6th Branch
- Town of Edmonston
Adkins Arboretum - www.adkinsarboretum.org

Location
Located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland approximately 90 minutes from the metropolitan areas of Washington, DC, and Baltimore. 12610 Eveland Road, Ridgely, MD 21660

Description
Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre Chesapeake Native Garden that promotes the understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of Mid-Atlantic Coastal Plain’s native landscape and ecosystems. It is one of the few botanical institutions focused on the conservation and promotion of the Coastal Plain flora, with more than 400 native plant species. It is a different Arboretum concept of collection comprised of the local forest plant communities and their successional patterns - meadows, old fields, pine plantations, young hardwood forests and mature bottom-land forests.

In addition to protecting the region’s natural heritage and powerful stewardship, we afford our visitors profound experiences of excitement, discovery, and awe. The Arboretum offers visitor amenities such as a visitor’s center, native plant nursery, gift shop, gardens, and paths, services such as plant identification and garden design and land stewardship consultations, and programs and events for adults and children.

As a mentor we can assist new applicants with:
- Program Development
- Environmental Education
- Native Plant Information and Purchase

Contact
Ginna Tiernan - gtiernan@adkinsarboretum.org

Annapolis Maritime Museum – www.amaritime.org/

Location
723 2nd Street, Annapolis, MD 21403

Description
The Annapolis Maritime Museum (AMM) educates youth and adults about the Annapolis area's rich maritime heritage and the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay through programs, exhibits and community events. We accomplish this mission through an engaging suite of hands-on programming and by bringing visitors to our unique location, at the mouth of Back Creek overlooking the Chesapeake Bay.

The Education Center at the AMM annually serves more than 12,000 participants. We aim to help construct a connection between people and the environment by leading hands-on activities that foster positive outdoor experiences and help stimulate critical thinking. These experiences can help establish a foundation for future sustainable environmental decision making. AMM offers three free core programs, as well as field trips, family programs, afterschool, summer camp, and more.

The AMM has extensive experience applying for and receiving grants from the CBT. The staff at the AMM can assist with program development especially in environmental education, using the CBT grant portal and assembling and reviewing grant packages.

**Location**
975 Indian Landing Road, Millersville, Maryland 21108

**Description**
The Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy (WSA) trains Master Watershed Stewards to help their neighbors reduce pollution in local creeks and rivers. Launched in 2009, the organization was created out of a partnership between Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center and the Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works to build the capacity of residents to reduce pollutants entering local waterways via stormwater. Our hands-on certification course gives Stewards the tools to implement change in their communities—neighborhoods, schools, congregations, businesses—by turning knowledge into action. Stewards work with their communities to install projects such as rain gardens or conservation landscapes and to reduce pollution at its source. Collectively, these small community-based actions are improving the health of the larger Chesapeake Bay watershed.

In Anne Arundel County, WSA serves as the hub where anyone interested in working on water protection can come together. We connect residents to our team Certified Master Watershed Stewards, who serve as a long-term peer-to-peer presence in their communities, facilitating real change to improve our waterways. Our Consortium of Support Professionals includes governmental, nonprofit and business professionals who provide technical assistance by consulting on the design and development of watershed restoration projects. Recognizing that residents have very different connections to water and that meaningful watershed action can only happen when all of us work together, WSA is committed to reaching all communities and ensuring that the actions we ask our communities to adopt are guided by principles of social justice, equity, and inclusion. Learn more about WSA at [www.aawsa.org](http://www.aawsa.org).

**The Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy can assist with:**

Grant writing support, community outreach and project development guided by the principles of DEIJ.

**Contact:** Noelle Chao, Program Coordinator, nchao@aacps.org

Arundel Rivers Federation - [www.arundelrivers.org](http://www.arundelrivers.org)

**Location**
Edgewater, Maryland (Anne Arundel County)

**Description**
The Arundel Rivers Federation uses science, restoration and community action to make the South, West and Rhode Rivers cleaner and healthier. We envision clean, fishable, swimmable waterways for our local communities.

**The Arundel Rivers Federation is pleased to offer the following skills to organizations applying for the Mini Grant for Community Engagement and Restoration:**

- Using the CBT Grant Portal to submit a grant.
- Assembling grant packages including technical attachments
- Advice/best practices on hosting volunteer and outreach events
- Willing to review restoration plans for projects less than 5,000 square feet
- Guidance on submitting Standard Grading Plan permits for projects less than 5,000 square feet
- Assistance in developing planting plan and ordering plants
- Reviewing final grant application

Contact
Jennifer Carr - jennifer@arundelrivers.org; 717-575-8214

Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) – www.anshome.org

Location
Washington DC area. While the majority of our programs take place at locations across the Washington DC metro region, the ANS headquarters is located at Woodend Nature Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD just inside the Beltway and west of Rock Creek. We also host programs at our Rust Nature Sanctuary in Leesburg, VA.

Description
Founded in 1897, ANS is the oldest independent environmental organization in the DC metro area. Our mission is to inspire residents of the greater Washington, DC region to appreciate, understand and protect their natural environment through outdoor experiences, education and advocacy. Each year, ANS provides more than 28,000 residents of all ages across the Washington DC region with opportunities to connect to the natural world through: conservation activities from water quality monitoring, restoration, advocacy and environmental stewardship projects to empowering communities to protect their local streams and develop greener neighborhoods; school-based environmental education programs at all grade levels in Washington, DC, Maryland and Virginia; and classes, workshops, forays and other activities for teachers, adults, children and families.

ANS would be glad to offer the following assistance to organizations applying for the Community Engagement Mini Grant:
- Using the CBT grant portal
- Preparing grant packages
- Environmental education or conservation advocacy program development

Contact
Lisa Alexander - lisa.alexander@anshome.org; 301-652-9188

Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT) - www.lowershorelandtrust.org

Location
LSLT is located in Snow Hill, Maryland, on the banks of the Pocomoke River.

Description
The Lower Shore Land Trust (LSLT) is interested in being a mentor to organizations on the Lower Shore. The LSLT is dedicated to preserving rural lands, to promoting vibrant towns, and to building a more healthy and connected Eastern Shore. Our new home is not only picturesque, but it serves our mission. In this spot we welcome prospective members and negotiate new conservation easements, all within sight of the type of resources we protect.

Areas of expertise
Community outreach, fundraising, land protection, rain gardens and pollinator garden installation, volunteer recruitment
Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway - www.UpperBayTrails.com

Location
Along the banks of the Susquehanna River and the Upper Bay, in Harford and Cecil Counties.

Description
Our organization was created to serve as a conservation strategy to protect environmentally sensitive areas along Upper Bay by developing 38 miles of recreational trails to connect the 3 waterfront communities of Port Deposit, Perryville, and Havre de Grace, creating not only physical linkages for enhanced visitation and economic growth but also providing a mechanism to connect the area's historical, cultural, and natural offerings.
To best understand who we are, please watch our brief video: www.UpperBayTrails.com

Areas of Expertise

Project/Grant Management
- We view and rank partner grants for the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and, with their funding, we manage our own mini-grant program. This has provided the opportunity to gain a lot of experience in reviewing grant applications, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and making suggestions for improvement.
- Including partner and mini grants, we have been involved in the application and/or management of 100+ grants.

Stewardship Programs
- We have hosted 20 annual River Sweep shoreline clean-ups, removing well over 114 tons of debris from the Upper Bay and its tributaries. These are regional cleanups involving hundreds of volunteers occurring at 10+ sites throughout 2 counties.
- We co-host an annual National Trails Day event to perform trail maintenance and bring exposure to our trails.

Contact
Brigitte Carty - brigitte@upperbaytrails.com; 410-457-2482

Maryland Water Monitoring Council
http://dnr.maryland.gov/streams/Pages/MWMC/index.aspx

Location
Annapolis, Maryland (Anne Arundel County) and statewide

Description
Founded in 1994, the Maryland Water Monitoring Council (MWMC) serves as a statewide collaborative body encouraging effective collection, interpretation, and dissemination of environmental data. The MWMC strives to improve communication within the Maryland water monitoring and management community regarding
issues, policies, and resource management. The Council is aligned under the Maryland Department of Natural Resources with a Board of Directors having representatives from local, state and federal agencies, private industry, academia, and citizen and regional organizations.

The MWMC addresses the full range of aquatic and watershed resources in Maryland - ground and surface waters, freshwater, estuarine and marine environments, and associated watershed resources. From environmental justice to climate change adaptation; from surface water regulatory programs to the Chesapeake Bay TMDL; the Council is an excellent venue for both professionals and lay persons to keep abreast all of all things watery in Maryland.

The MWMC sponsors a number of standing committees and ad hoc workgroups that meet regularly throughout the year. These groups work through a process of consensus to help achieve the Council’s purpose and goals. Committees and workgroups sponsor workshops from time to time.

The Council also sponsors workshops and holds an Annual Conference to promote an exchange of information within Maryland's water monitoring community.

The Council’s mission is to:
- Provide documentation of all of the varied monitoring activities that are taking place in the State of Maryland;
- Provide a forum for effective communication, cooperation, and collaboration among the individuals and organizations involved in monitoring;
- Promote the use of quality assured procedures for sample collection, data management, analysis and assessment; and
- Facilitate the development of collaborative watershed-based monitoring

The Maryland Water Monitoring Council is pleased to offer the following skills to organizations applying for a CBT Mini Grant:
- Drafting the basic requirements of a grant proposal.
- Using the CBT Grant Portal to submit a grant.
- Advice on outreach and hosting workshops/conferences.
- Providing expert advice on issues related to water monitoring and assessment, programs and policy.

Contact
Dan Boward, MWMC Executive Secretary - dan.boward@maryland.gov; 410.260.8605

Olde Severna Park Improvement Association - www.oldsavernapark.com

Location
Olde Severna Park, Severna Park MD 21146

Description
Community association

Skills and services
Experience as an Anne Arundel County Master Watershed Steward since 2009. Experience in writing successful grants for stormwater management projects for my community - Olde Severna Park Improvement Association.
Pigtown Main Street - www.pigtownmainstreet.org

Location
Pigtown Main Street is located in the Pigtown neighborhood of Southwest Baltimore (city).

Description
Since 2000, Pigtown Main Street has revitalized the Pigtown neighborhood of Southwest Baltimore, with a focus on Washington Boulevard, Pigtown’s commercial corridor. We engage residents and small business owners through cleaning and greening initiatives. We also offer technical assistance to small business owners, partner with property owners to recruit new small businesses and host free neighborhood events that foster community pride and attract customers to our shops.

Contact
Kim Lane - director@historicpigtown.org

Potomac Conservancy - www.potomac.org

Location
Silver Spring, MD

Description
Potomac Conservancy’s mission is to safeguard the lands and waters of the Potomac River and its tributaries and to connect people to this national treasure. We work throughout the 15,000 square mile Potomac region leading a powerful local movement of 21,000 river champions comprised of local landowners, activists, volunteers, partners, and donors who are fighting with us to keep pollution out of the Potomac River and local streams. The Conservancy’s overall goal is to ensure the Potomac River boasts clean drinking water, healthy lands, and connected communities.

Our three areas of expertise are land conservation, policy and community outreach. The Land Protection program helps protect the Potomac from future threats by permanently protecting land in the headwaters regions. The Policy team fights for local policies that reduce pollution and improve quality of life through sustainable and smart growth, land conservation and green infrastructure improvements. The Community Conservation program offers hands-on volunteer and recreation programs that connect people to the river.

We can assist with:
- Preparing winning grant proposals
- Reviewing applications
- Using the CBT web portal
- Developing program strategies

Contact
Ann Jackson - annjackson61@gmail.com; 443-223-7236
ShoreRivers - www.shorerivers.org

Location
ShoreRivers Headquarters: 114 S. Washington St. Suite 301, Eastern Shore Conservation Center, Easton, MD 21601
ShoreRivers Sassafras: 111A North Main St, Galena, MD 21635
ShoreRivers Chestertown: 207 South Water St. Unit B, Chestertown, MD 21620

Description
ShoreRivers protects and restores Eastern Shore waterways through science-based advocacy, restoration, and education. Our core focus is the waterways of the Chester, Choptank, Sassafras, Miles, and Wye rivers, Eastern Bay, and the Bayside Creeks. Our main office is in Easton and we have regional offices in Chestertown and Galena. We have a dedicated staff of educators, scientists, restoration specialists, and advocates focused on policies and projects that will improve the health of our rivers.

ShoreRivers is pleased to offer the following skills to organizations applying for a mini-grant:

- Using the CBT grant portal to apply for and manage grants
- Program development
- Provide guidance on how to assemble grant packages including technical attachments such as planting plans, restoration concepts and designs, contractor bids, monitoring and maintenance plans, and program evaluations
- Provide guidance in developing citizen science programs, community outreach plans including DEIJ components, behavior change and awareness campaigns, and environmental education curriculum
- Provide guidance in developing a proposal budget
- Final review of grant proposal

Contact
Darran White Tilghman, Director of Community Engagement - dtilghman@shorerivers.org

St. Mary’s College of Maryland - www.smcm.edu

Location
St. Mary’s City, MD

Description
St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) is Maryland's honors college, a selective, public liberal arts college - a vibrant community of scholars and learners. We foster a rigorous and innovative curriculum; experiential learning; scholarship and creativity; close mentoring relationships; and a community dedicated to honesty, civility, and integrity. We are committed to diversity, access, and affordability. Our students, faculty and staff serve local, national, and global communities and cultivate and promote social responsibility.

In 2016, SMCM celebrated its 175-year anniversary and is currently ranked among the top 10 best public liberal arts colleges in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Founded on the site of Maryland's first capital,
the College stands as a living legacy to the ideals of freedom and inclusiveness. Our beautiful residential campus on the banks of the St. Mary's River inspires our work, our play, and our commitment to the environment.

The **Office of Research and Sponsored Programs** (ORSP) at SMCM, provides professional support and services for research, scholarly projects and creative endeavors by faculty, students and staff. Services provided include general education, training, and support related to sponsored research principles and best practices, consultative services and technical support for developing grant proposals, and assistance with the administration and compliance of awards.

Several SMCM faculty have been honored to receive grant funding from the Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) Community Engagement Mini Grant program. Most recently, as support for a collaborative project using goats as biological control of kudzu, an invasive species, on the SMCM campus.

Based on previous successful CBT applications and our extensive experience with sponsored projects, the SMCM ORSP might be well-suited to serve as your mentor institution for the CBT Community Engagement Mini Grant program. We can help with a wide array of research projects that align with the CBT’s mission and that fit the CBT Community Engagement Mini Grant guidelines. Please contact us via e-mail if you’d like to enter a mentor-mentee relationship with ORSP staff at SMCM while developing your CBT Community Engagement Mini Grant. Please include a brief abstract (~200 words) that explains your project and why you think we might be a good fit as mentors. We are a small office, so may only be able to mentor one applicant at a time.

**Contact**
Adam Malisch, Research Administrator - ajmalisch@smcm.edu

**Mentor**
Dr. Sabine Dillingham, Director of Research and Sponsored Programs

**The Sixth Branch (T6B)** - [http://the6thbranch.org/](http://the6thbranch.org/)

**Location**
Baltimore City, Maryland, with project focus in East Baltimore

**Description:** The 6th Branch (T6B), founded in 2010, utilizes the leadership and organizational skills of military veterans to execute aggressive community service initiatives in Baltimore City. T6B’s main program is “Neighborscape,” which transforms unmanaged, vacant, and otherwise hazardous areas into community assets. T6B currently conducts service projects on more than 18 acres of once vacant land in four East Baltimore neighborhoods: Oliver, Johnston Square, Darley Park, and Broadway East. T6B accomplishes this work by leading volunteers during regular service projects.

**The 6th Branch can assist with:**

Technical assistance regarding grant applications, to include advice on grant-writing strategies, advice and support for management of funds and reporting requirements. T6B also offers fiscal sponsorship for projects and programs that fit within our core mission to support community development through greenspace enhancement in Baltimore City.
Town of Edmonston – [www.edmonstonmd.gov](http://www.edmonstonmd.gov)

**Location**  
Edmonston, Maryland (Prince George’s County)

**Description**  
The specialties of our grants have been: low impact development measures (i.e. green streets, rain gardens and trees) and outreach to underrepresented populations as well as health-related measures (edible forests, green job training and pervious sidewalks).

Town of Edmonston can assist with:

- We have been successful in getting grants from Chesapeake Bay Trust, Safe Routes to Schools, Kaiser's Healthy Eating, Active Living and Maryland Heritage Trust Areas.
- The town's motto is "Green is not only Edmonston's favorite color, but it's our way of life."  
- We can help up to 20 hours per mentee.  
- Edmonston's demographics are that its population is 48% Latino and 35% African American. The town lies in the developed tier of Prince George's County—approximately 2.5 miles from the District of Columbia.

**Contact**  
Rod Barnes - [rbarnes@edmonstonmd.gov](mailto:rbarnes@edmonstonmd.gov); 301-699-8806