The Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation (BOC) is a non-profit educational, historical, and environmental organization. Since the mid 1990’s the (BOC) has been documenting the contributions of African-Americans in the maritime and seafood-related industries. The signature of the (BOC) has been to utilize the history and culture of minorities on the Chesapeake Bay as the gateway for engaging under-served and non-traditional populations in environmental stewardship.

In 2000, the Library of Congress & the U.S. Congress designated the Blacks of the Chesapeake as a Local Legacy Project for bringing to light this little known aspect of Americana (https://www.loc.gov/folklife/roots/).

African-Americans who have worked and continue to work in the maritime and seafood processing industries in the Chesapeake Bay region are an integral part of this area’s rich culture and heritage. In 1984, the Blacks of the Chesapeake began to document this aspect of Americana. The foundation serves the community with a broad range of historical, cultural and educational activities.

We need your support to help preserve this rich history and make our collection of photographs, artifacts, memorabilia, material records, oral histories and genealogical information available to researchers, scholars, teachers and students.

We are seeking financial donations, grants, partnerships, strategic alliances and volunteers assist the Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation to accomplish these goals and objectives.

Please visit our website to make donations and to learn more about our history, projects, programs and upcoming events.

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