

Meet the Presenter

ABEL OLIVO

CO FOUNDER - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



DEFENSORES DE LA CUENCA

abel@defensoresdelacuena.org

WWW.DEFENSORESDELACUENCA.ORG



Defensores de la Cuenca

**MEANINGFUL
CONNECTION TO THE
LATINO COMMUNITY**

CONECTANDO CON LA COMUNIDAD

Chesapeake Bay Commission - January 2024

Quienes Somos

BUILDING A KNOWLEDGE BANK

Sharing what we know about our natural world for a more informed community

CREATING SHARED EXPERIENCES

Enjoying nature and the watershed in community

BUILDING A NETWORK OF LEADERS

We need more Latin@s leading in their communities today, for tomorrow

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**OUR GROWING
COMMUNITY**

19.1%

OR 62.1 MILLION IN 2020,
ESTIMATED TO GROW TO 28%
OR 111 MILLION BY 2060



Latin@/es Across the Watershed

95%

Cool Spring
Elementary
Adelphi
90% FARMS

73%

William Wirt
Middle
Riverdale
90% FARMS

70%

Parkdale High
Riverdale
80% FAMRS



Recognizing the Barriers

YOUR COMPETITION

LANGUAGE

Working to overcome the language gap

TRUST

The political climate over the last three years really has Latin@s nervous to try new things

TIME

6 day work week and church leave room for little else



Clase Alfa - La Academia de Defensores



CAPSTONE PROJECTS:



Green Jobs Defensores Youth Corps



Greater Baltimore

Wilderness
Coalition

Chesapeake
Conservancy
EXPLORE. CONSERVE. INNOVATE

GROW
HOME

 NFWF



Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

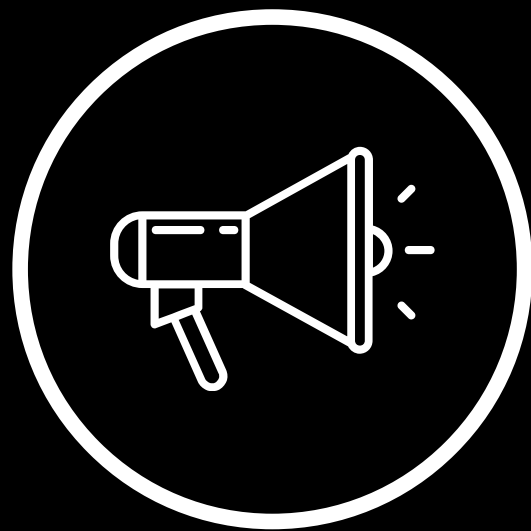

Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

Embajadores de los Árboles

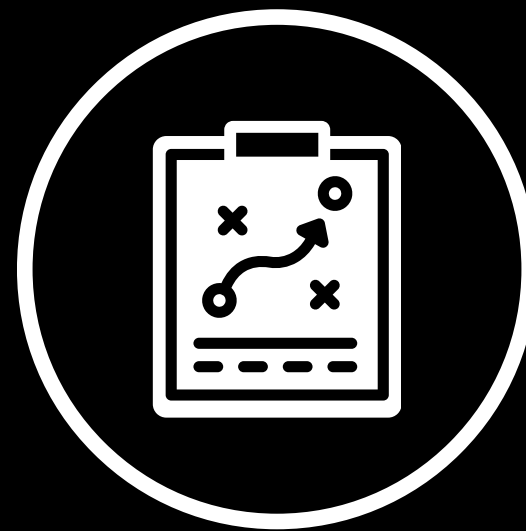


Factors of Successful Engagement

DDLC RECOMMENDATIONS



Message



Strategy



Partnerships

Aims and Focus

**GOALS WORTH
ACHIEVING**

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Involvement in EJ
often leads to getting
to know potential
partners

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships help
bring about Cultural
Competency

CULTURAL COMPETENCY

Being culturally
competent allows you
to create an inviting
space

DIVERSIFYING INTERNALLY

Being inviting often
leads to a more
welcoming and
supportive work
environment for
diverse perspectives

Do the best you can until
you know better. Then
when you know better, do
better.

MAYA ANGELOU





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