



**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
East Coast BETA Report • Sustainable Education Toolkit**

**Durfee High School's
CTE's Environmental Science & Tech Program
March 2022**



Stone Soup Leadership Institute
www.stonesoupleadership.org
<https://sustainwdn.com/durfee-high-school-beta/>



The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's BETA Program 2021-2022

Durfee High School CTE's Environmental Science & Tech Program Overview

It's been said that Durfee High School is the economic engine of Fall River. The school is working hard on a strategic turnaround with extensive programs resulting in improving AP scores. It is brand-new school with state-of-the-art equipment including aquaculture, school gardens and high-tech equipment.

The Institute is honored to work alongside a dedicated Principal and a thriving community. It's a brand-new beginning for the school, the students and for the community.

The transition to the blue-green economy is one of its greatest challenges and opportunities for Fall River and the Southcoast region. Over the years, the Stone Soup Leadership Institute was approached by Bristol Community College professors and the business community: "We have blue/green companies who are eager to hire students. How can we get students to pursue these sustainable careers?"

Last fall the Institute was invited to assist with Durfee High School's CTE Environmental Science & Tech Program. The Institute in partnership with CTE Teacher Tess Bradley custom tailored a **10-week BETA Program** as a dynamic, hybrid interactive learning experience. Ms. Bradley used the BETA program with her students to enhance her program by creating real-life role models and opportunities in student's fields of interest, gain real-world learning and have fun!

VIDEO: [Tess Bradley BETA Overview](#)

Each week we featured a story and lesson plans from the companion curriculum for our new book, *Stone Soup for the Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Everyday Heroes*. The Lesson Plans bring the stories to life with Language Arts and STEM Activities,

Sustainability Innovations and Sustainable Career Pathways. To broaden students' awareness of real-jobs in their community, we showcased one of the 50+ one-year certificates at Bristol Community College: Clean Water Management, Solar Tech, Sustainable Agriculture, Offshore Wind, and Green Building.

Throughout the program, students had the opportunity to listen to live (and virtual) speakers within different fields of sustainability and learn about the steps needed to pursue a sustainable career. The Institute's multicultural team of facilitators worked with Ms. Bradley to inspire her students to pursue these new career pathways in this emerging blue economy. Each week we debriefed with Ms. Bradley to evaluate student progress and explore ways to adapt the program to meet their unique needs.

Video: [BETA Highlights](#)

On December 15, 2021, we invited the Fall River Mayor and Superintendent, business leaders and Bristol Community College to meet these students in the BETA Program. Students shared their Sustainability Career Pathways and we invited our guests to imagine how this BETA program could support their efforts to build a pipeline as Fall River and the Southcoast transition to the sustainable economy.

[How this Durfee Program is preparing students for the "Blue and Green Economy" -- *The Herald News*](#)

On March 4, students graduated from the Institute's East Coast BETA Program.

***Our relationship with the
Stone Soup Leadership Institute
has benefited our students immensely.***

***It's opened their eyes to jobs
in the blue and green economies.***

***It's helped develop ideas
about students in their pathways in life.***

***I look forward to taking the next step with the
Institute to see where this leads us.***

**Matthew Desmarais
Principal, BMC Durfee High School
Fall River, MA**

**Stone Soup Leadership Institute
www.stonesoupleadership.org**

The Challenge & Opportunity

Massachusetts has been an early leader in the nation's transition to the blue-green economy. There are increasingly new opportunities for high-paying jobs in these emerging fields. The Fall River community is uniquely well-positioned to benefit from this economic development. Fall River is very fortunate to have the forward-thinking Bristol Community College that offers one-two year certificates that prepare students for these jobs – and can lead to four-year college degrees – and even better paying jobs. However, the lack of sustainability education in our schools and the lack of information about these certificates and jobs has limited students' ability to take advantage of these opportunities. There is an urgent need to develop a pipeline from our schools to these sustainable career pathways in this burgeoning economy.



BETA Program Sustainability Tour: May 13

The Institute is strong believer in the power of hands-on learning. The Sustainability Tour connects students to real life experiences and potential sustainable career pathways. The Sustainability Tour inspire students to pursue opportunities like internships, education and experience in the field of sustainability. Ms. Bradley and her students are eager to participate in The Institute's Sustainability Tour of the Southeast Coast. During the tour, students will travel to visit local companies in the sustainable economy including offshore wind, solar, and green building. One of the highlights of the Sustainability Tour is the Matunuck Oyster Farm in Wakefield, RI. Students will venture out to the world of aquaculture on the boats. Owner Perry Raso will share his experiences as a small business owner and sustainable farmer with students. During the Sustainability Tour students will produce a short video to share with their community about the opportunities they've experienced to inspire other students to explore these opportunities in the future.

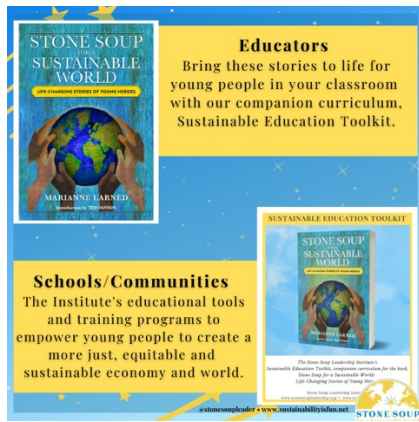
The Institute's Blue Economy BETA Sites Working Towards Actionable Solutions

For over 20 years, the Institute has worked wide communities in the Southeast Coast of Massachusetts and Rhode Island to prepare students for sustainable career pathways in the Blue Economy Corridor. The BETA program at Durfee High School builds on the success of the Institute's BETA programs.

- [Martha's Vineyard](#) (2000-2002 + 2010-2018)
- [Cape Cod BETA Site: 2020](#)
- [New Bedford BETA Site: 2018-2019](#)
- [Rhode Island: Newport: 2017-2020](#)

In addition, the Institute has worked alongside ocean communities—from Puerto Rico to Hawaii and the British Virgin Islands to the Philippines. The cross fertilization of ideas about sustainability initiatives from these communities deepens young people's awareness of the unique challenges and the solutions they can explore. Our annual Sustainability Summits, Career Mentor & Job Shadow Day Program, College Prep and Community Service Programs and year-round youth community leadership initiatives help young people develop the skills they need to develop their personal, professional, and planetary goals. Youth leaders from these communities created a 2020 Report for Sustainable Development, challenging their leaders to develop policies that balance protecting their communities' fragile ecosystems, providing for their families, creating opportunities for their children, and building a just, equitable, and sustainable future. Through this work we've inspired hundreds of underserved multicultural young people around the world to become effective leaders.

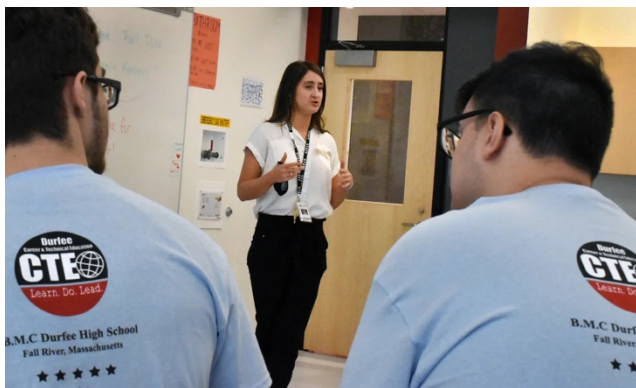




BETA Sustainability Education Toolkit Program Overview

The Southeast Coast has been an early leader in offshore wind and the transition to a sustainable economy. The Institute's BETA program at Durfee High School serves as a bridge between the needs of local business, the programs at the local community college and the interests of students to find good-paying jobs upon graduation.

This BETA Program was originally designed to test the Institute's new book and companion curriculum, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World – Life Changing Stories of Young Heroes*. In response to CTE teacher Tess Bradley's interest in exploring Bristol Community College sustainability-oriented certificate programs, The Institute expanded our original plans to incorporate our SustainWDN™ and Sustainable Career Pathways.



“The stories are created to inspire students and get them thinking about future and showing them what they can achieve regardless of what circumstance they come from. This is vital to students like mine who come from diverse backgrounds in an underdeveloped community. It is great to have a program that reinforces a student’s ability to achieve their goals and learn from people like them.”

Tess Bradley

Durfee High School's CTE Environmental Science and Technology Teacher

What is Sustainable Education Toolkit BETA?

The Sustainable Education Toolkit BETA is a 10-week education program designed to empower multicultural youth to explore sustainable education through the lens of Language Arts and STEM activities and sustainable career pathways. Students are given the opportunity to explore sustainable career pathways offered at Bristol Community College and design a personalized sustainable career pathway with the guidance of our team.

For CTE/Science/STEM Educators: these educational tools are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, which are focused on helping students develop a coherent and scientifically based view of the world, convert their ideas into tangible, real-life projects. They have been adopted by 27 states across the country.

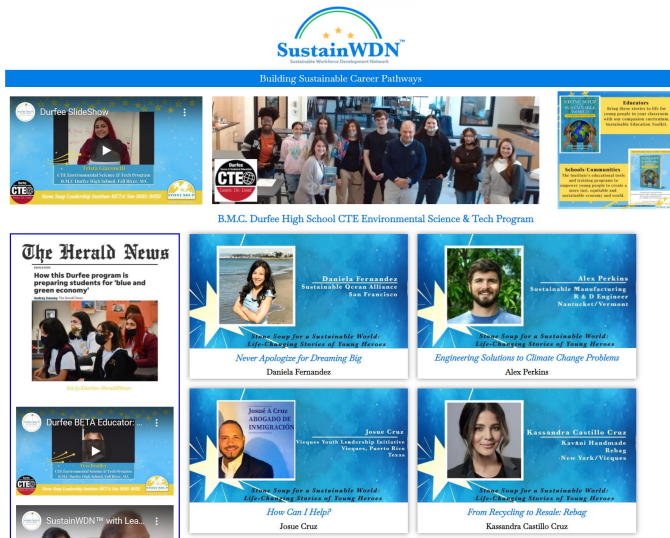
Sustainable Education Toolkit Lesson Plans

The Sustainable Education Toolkit highlighted 10 lesson plans based on stories featured in new book and companion curriculum, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World – Life Changing Stories of Young Heroes*. The program is committed to providing dynamic resources for educators to increase their students' appreciation for STEM, with a special focus on climate education and sustainability solutions. Each individualized lesson plan is designed to allow students to learn about the personal story, experience and career pathway from individuals working in diverse areas of the blue/green economy.

The lesson plans highlighted were Trevor Tanaka, Daniella Fernandez, Kassandra Cruz Castillo, Josue Morales, Alex Perkins, Illai Kenney, Vincent Kimura, Ana Sophia Misfud, and Ed Begley Jr.. The students watched videos and listened to live presentations of the sustainable journey of each of the 10 stories from the book and in the Lesson Plans. As a guide for teachers, each lesson plan is structured with ELA and STEM learning standards to be implemented as a part of the curriculum.

Learning Incentives

Students received the book and personalized notebooks with the companion lesson plans. They received T-shirts and water bottles and certificates upon completion of the program at graduation.



Featured Guest Speakers: Live & Virtual & Sustainability Leaders

- **Anthony Baro**, E2Sol, Fall River, MA
- **Trevor Tanaka**, Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Sustainability Coordinator
- **Taynara Goncalves**, Medical Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative
- **Kassandra Cruz**, Kavani Studio, Entrepreneur
- **Leslie Perez**, Graphic Design, Entrepreneur Rhode Island Youth Leadership Initiative
- **Ana Sophia Misfud**, Rocky Mountain Institute (Solar Energy Certificate)
- **Illai Kenney**, HBCU Green Fund (Green Building Technology Certificate)
- **Josue Cruz**, Environmental Lawyer Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative
- **Vincent Kimura**, SmartYields Entrepreneur (Sustainable Agriculture Certificate)
- **Ed Begley Jr.**, Sustainable Living (Offshore Wind Technician Certificate)



Presentation by Leaslie Perez



The Herald News

EDUCATION

How this Durfee program is preparing students for 'blue and green economy'

Audrey Cooney The Herald News



bit.ly/Durfee-HeraldNews

The Herald News: [How this Durfee Program is preparing students for the "Blue and Green Economy"](#)





Envisioning Sustainable Career Pathways – Bristol Community College

One of the highlights of the Institute’s BETA program was working with Durfee students to envision and then design their personalized career pathways. The Institute’s *Sustainable Workforce Development Network: SustainWDN™* is our cutting-edge digital workforce development network that builds bridges between young people, educators, and blue and green companies and is developing a 21st century workforce development pipeline. Its purpose is to provide youth from historically marginalized backgrounds with a pathway to high-paying technical jobs and internships in the world of sustainability. It offers educators and career counselors tools to guide students toward sustainable career pathways and also serves as an economic planning tool to help communities transition to a sustainable economy. It can help companies realize a “triple bottom line” by preparing young people to contribute to a sustainable workforce, and a resilient community.

Bristol Community College is an ideal partner for the Institute’s SustainWDN™. Bristol offers over 50 different certificate options for students that include Clean Water Quality Professional, Green Building Technology, Offshore Wind Power Technology, Geographic Information Systems, Solar Energy, Small Business and entrepreneurial management and Sustainable Agriculture. As a part of the program, students learned about the requirements, potential careers and opportunities presented when pursuing a sustainable certificate. Bristol’s Environmental Science and Technology Coordinator, Robert Rak has assisted us in connecting with students and engaging them on the opportunities presented as a part of the sustainability certificate programs.

Two students, **Ben Tierney** and **Gavin Pacheco**, created their sustainable pathway as they are participating in the Clean Water Technology Certificate Pathway. As the program grows, Robert Rak would like to reaffirm their confidence.

“By 1920 Fall River had become one of the greatest textile cities in the world, with over 100 mills producing textiles. The floating palaces of the Fall River Line transported passengers from ordinary citizens to presidents on routes which connected Fall River with Boston and New York. With the close of the cotton mills, Fall River declared bankruptcy in 1931. Yet the city and its people survived. The City has a large immigrant population which has led to a great diversity of culture. Its population has always been a hard-working and talented group. It is important for our young people to see that they can be a part of a resurgence of the city. That there are opportunities for them to develop the talents that they need for the new sustainable Blue and Green economies that are blossoming in our area.”

The partnership between Durfee High School, under the guidance of Environmental Science and Technology instructor Tess Bradley, and the Stone Soup Leadership Institute, with founder Marianne Larned and Sustainability Coordinator Trevor Tanaka, can be the catalyst to show students that they can achieve their Individual goals if they are willing to work hard, persevere, and take advantage of the opportunities afforded them to enhance their education at Bristol or other colleges nearby.

Robert S. Rak Professor and Environmental Science & Technology Coordinator Bristol Community College



Bristol Community College and their programs serve as a beacon of hope to build the workforce for Blue Economy Jobs in Southeastern Massachusetts. Going forward The Institute looks forward to continuing to build on our partnership with Bristol, Robert Rak, President Laura Douglas and the College Access Department and to serve as a bridge and support system for students who are interest in Bristol Certificates and pursuing sustainable careers.

The Institute's Assessment of Blue Economy & Fall River Business Community

The Institute held a Design-A-Thon for the Blue Economy in 2019. We brought together leaders of the Blue Economy in New England - from CEOs, to the Mayor, educators and academic institutions to engage in a deep exploration to shape the design of the Institute's SustainWDN™ Sustainable Workforce Development Network.

The key takeaway of the Design-A-Thon was the major increase of jobs in the emerging Blue Economy and lack of information available to young people about these jobs which prevents them from pursuing blue career pathways.

Business participants completed a Sustainability Survey that asked them to project the number of employees they would need to build their company. Educational institutions were asked about the training programs they offered for recent high school graduates. Each were asked to share their greatest challenges. Business were eager to hire trained employees. Educational institutions were eager to train them. The greatest challenge they both shared is that high schools - especially the guidance counselors – needed to increase their awareness of the transition to the sustainable economy.

Fall River and the Northeast is home to the hub of blue and green careers in the United States. The advancements in offshore wind technology are unique to this part of the country and companies allow students to grow and become a part of the expanding field of offshore wind. The Institute strives to connect students with organizations and agencies to expose students to career opportunities and internships that will allow them to pursue their passions.



SustainWDN™ Video
[SustainWDN™ Southcoast MA](#)



It's been enlightening for me to learn how disconnected our youth in our region are from our local industry, especially Blue Tech. "We have an absolute opportunity for Chambers of Commerce, working with local professional associations and organizations and local government business development agencies, to engage united in an educational career and workforce development outreach program with our High Schools and Higher Ed Institutions. Students have high aspirations, helping them recognize and identify paths knowing what local industry and government incentive programs are, can offer them the opportunity to help them develop their dreams and ultimately ignite local communities with much needed solutions to local challenges. Blue Tech represents 75% of the Earth footprint. Imagine what we can accomplish if we could develop the missing 50% capacity to address our Blue Tech promise and challenges. I look forward to staying engaged and helping this great workforce development initiative.

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is enabling a new generation of aspiring young mind to achieve their greatest potential in creating a sustainable future. I wish this program would be adopted in every high school in the states through the Department of Education.

Anthony Baro, E2Sol Fall River, MA

This book is full of inspirational stories about the next generation of leaders who are passionate about our environment and oceans. Protecting our oceans, and in turn our planet, is going to require passionate leaders like these who are willing to take action. I hope that they will encourage all of us to consider what needs to be done to create a more sustainable world.

Dr. Tobias Stapleton
Blue Innovation Symposium

East Coast BETA Program Accomplishments

The Institute measures the program's success with qualitative and quantitative measurements. We are proud of these students and how eager they were to learn and explore new sustainable career pathways.

I. Sustainable Career Pathways

Each student selected a Sustainable Career Pathway.

- **Angelee Sok**
Sustainable Agriculture and Entrepreneurship
- **Katiushka Flores**
Environmental Justice Lawyer
- **Jonah Grajales**
Sustainable Agriculture
- **Benjamin Tierney**
Clean Water Management
- **Genesis Rodriguez**
Green Building and Offshore Wind
- **Trista Giaconetti**
General Sustainability: Entrepreneur
- **Naziya Taillon:** Design
- **Gavin Pacheco**
Offshore Wind and Solar Tech
- **Laniya Comas**
Green Building
- **Alexya Mayo**
Green Pathway: Community Centered

II. The Institute's Performance Metrics is the foundation of the Institute's initiatives as a way to measure youth and our success. The Performance Metrics measures skills that are needed for workforce development in the 21st Century such as **Communication, Teamwork, Conflict Resolution, Problem Solving, Adaptability, Empathy, Critical Thinking, Project Management Skills, Goals, Motivation** and **Wellbeing, and Education.**

III. Sustainability Survey: Pre-Post Test

Students completed the Sustainability Survey before and after the 10-week program. Students increased their response to "How eager am I to get a sustainable

career to help rebuild the planet?" **Laniya Comas** and **Trista Giaconetti** both reported 100/100 on this question. As we assess the Sustainability Surveys, we are proud to see a reenforced desire to pursue sustainable careers with a particular emphasis on grassroots campaigns, community organizing and marine biology.

IV. Evaluation Worksheet: Each week students were asked to share their highlights and what they learned during the session; rank the various presentations and videos; and then demonstrate their language arts skills by writing about how each story inspired them. One of the most memorable evaluations was from **Katiushka Flores**. From her application we saw that she was interested in becoming a DEA worker. We discovered that her interest came from her own personal experience after Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. As a result, we chose a specific story from the book about Puerto Rican youth leader Josue Cruz Morales who immigration/environmental lawyer. Kat rated the program a 100 (on a scale of 1-10) as she was able to connect on a personal level with the story and her dreams.

V. Student Presentations

Students were encouraged to share their dreams with others, especially the business community so that they might find an internship or even a job. At the Community Event with business and education leaders as well as Fall River Mayor and Superintendent, **Ben Tierney** and **Gavin Pacheco** inspired everyone with a presentation on their Sustainable Career Pathway on Clean Water Technology in conjunction with Bristol Community College's certificate program..

VI. Professional Development: Each week we conducted planning sessions with Ms. Bradley to evaluate student progress and explore ways to adapt the program to meet their unique needs. We used this time as a planning session to deepen the educator's understanding of the program and to revise the agenda for the next session with students. This was especially important given the challenges of the COVID pandemic and the inclement winter weather.

VII. Student Quotes: We are grateful to the heartfelt responses we received from Durfee students their favorite stories that they met during the BETA program and the highlights from the program.



Illai Kenney's story about green buildings was important because it can help to solve problems (water issues, plastic). It is extremely important to me because I have seen people suffer due to these issues. One of my favorite highlights of the program has been having the opportunity to learn about different fields of environmental science. Covid-19 cancelled many of our programs and I am grateful that the Institute's team shared their precious time with us!

Laniya Comas

Sustainable Career Pathway: Green Building



During this program, it was great to learn about the diversity of people's passions and experiences in sustainability. What inspires me about Ana Sophia Misud is how inspired and dedicated she is.

Naziya Taillon
Sustainable Career Pathway: Design



Something that inspires me about Ana Sophia Misud's story is how she helped over 4,000 people and cleaned the earth. I cherish the chance to learn about the different opportunities that are available for everyone. Thanks to this program, I'm grateful to learn that if something does not work out for a career pathway, that I know that there are many other diverse career paths I could pursue.

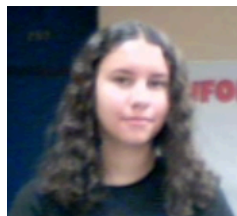
Genesis Rodriguez

Sustainable Career Pathway: Green Building and Offshore Wind



I like that Ana Sophia Misud wanted to make a difference, not just for her and her family, but for the world. Through this program it was great to learn how I can become a part of making a change in the world and the hurdles that others overcame to make sustainable changes.

Trista Gianconetti
Sustainable Career Pathway: General Entrepreneur



It was great to be a part of this program to learn about my future and how I can positively affect future generations.

Alexya Mayo
Sustainable Career Pathway: Community Centered



This program helped to change my life and shape my future by learning about how people have built their own sustainable careers. Ana Sophia Misud took charge and solved problems that other people couldn't. This helped so many people get the resources they needed.

Jonah Grajales
Sustainable Career Pathway: Sustainable Agriculture



Ana Sophia Misud's story inspires me so much because I see how she started and where she is now. That inspires me to keep doing what I can to reach my goals! I really appreciate this program, Berta, Trevor, Marianne and Patricia for showing me the opportunities available to make a difference in the world.

Katiushka Flores
Sustainable Career Pathway Environmental Justice Lawyer



This program helped me to understand how you can connect sustainability and your interests to find a great career that you love. Illai Kenney's story showed me that everyone starts somewhere and that with hard work you can achieve your goals!

Gavin Pacheco
Sustainable Career Pathway Offshore Wind and Solar Technology



Ana Sophia Misud was inspired to help her community and never gave up hope in her fight with climate change. This opportunity helped me to learn sustainability and ways that I can incorporate sustainable practices into opening my own small business.

Angelee Sok
Sustainable Career Pathway Sustainable Agriculture and Entrepreneur



Ana Sophia's story showed me there are so many opportunities in the world and that I am taking a path to become more successful.

Benjamin Tierney
Sustainable Career Pathway Clean Water Management

The Institute's Assessment of the East Coast BETA Program

Lessons Learned

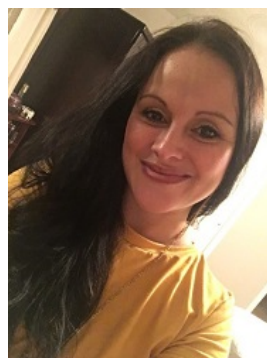
- The Institute is a learning organization – so we believe in listening first to the teacher and her students, the Principal and the community to customize our program. As a result, we deepened our original commitment and expanded our commitments to accommodate their requests.
- The Institute's East Coast Team: each week a member of our team was live in the classroom with teacher and her students. The cultural diversity of our team, their training, our weekly debriefing sessions and their insights into the students – all led to a rich and fulfilling experience for the teacher, students as well as for our team.
- As the pandemic shifts the state of education, teachers need assistance from organizations like the Institute to help to prepare students for the opportunities available to them. The challenges of the pandemic have created a window of opportunity to ask for help. We are here to help all teachers and students get the most out of their experience.
- The challenges of the pandemic and the transition to a hybrid program reinforced the Institute's goal of scaling our program nationally and globally. This hybrid BETA program offered areas of growth by allowing students to listen and engage with presenters from around the world in this global setting.

Reflections from The Institute's Team



It was a true pleasure working with Tess and the students at Durfee High School. Being able to experience firsthand the growth of the students in discussing their dreams and engaging with the stories in Stone Soup for the World was an honor. They are each very special and I'm excited to see them use the tools they've learned through this program in achieving their dreams."

Taynara Goncalves
BETA Program Facilitator



The BETA program at Durfee High School has been a great achievement for all of us. In life we never stop learning, each day is a new lesson as we learn a little from each person we interact with. I am amazed to have had the opportunity to share with both the students and their teacher. I was very pleased to share with the students of Durfee a little of what I have been able to learn from the Stone Soup Leadership Institute, Marianne and each of the Institute's members. Together we do everything we can to show students that there is much to learn about climate change, and many local job opportunities out there. It has been such a pleasure working with the students at Durfee High School because of their engagement and willingness to learn. The students were very respectful to their teacher and to us. They showed us how grateful they are for what they have learned. They realized that there is someone who cares about their present and their future. I am ready to take on another challenge and learn more about so many things in the world.

Berta Perez
Events Coordinator & Spanish Translator



It has been a privilege to work with Tess Bradley and the students at Durfee High School. As a Facilitator, the Durfee BETA Program has served as an amazing experience to connect with students and help to guide them towards their goals. The students embraced our team and the process of learning how to build their sustainable future. Throughout the process, students learned about STEM activities, sustainability innovations and sustainable career pathways by listening to heroes and reading stories featured in Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes. As the program concludes and students the sustainable career certificates they would like to pursue, I hope that they are able to use this experience as a building block to all that they would like to pursue in their lives.

Trevor Tanaka
Sustainability Coordinator



For the past 10 weeks, I've had the privilege to meet and interact with a dozen amazing young people. When reflecting on this, there have been challenges, celebrations, and so much that I have learned from them. Tess Bradley is a wonderful teacher who strives to inspire her students in their studies. She has a great connection with her students, and I can see that they trust and are very comfortable communicating with her,

which was a great help when we started working together. Her infectious energy pushed us forward each week. She was always ready to support and accommodate us throughout the program to help her students. The students were a great inspiration to our team throughout our time together. Working with each of them was always a different experience. They're each unique, they bring their own life experiences, needs and expectations to the table. Some of them are bold and outspoken. Others are more shy and reserved. Throughout the program, I've seen them each progress in their own way. They're beginning to explore their dreams and being encouraged to share their voice. Most of the students are in the final year or two of high school and didn't have a plan about they wanted to do after graduation. For some of them, college might not seem like an option to them. Throughout the 10-week program, we focused on sharing with them knowledge of alternative paths that they could take after high school that they might not have otherwise heard of. That's what makes this curriculum/program special and life-changing for a young person. It gives them the knowledge about their world in ways they might not been taught before, to learn about how young people like them are involved, and to show them the opportunities available to them that doesn't necessarily have to involve 4- year degree with student loans, yet still give them a good, stable future while making a positive impact.

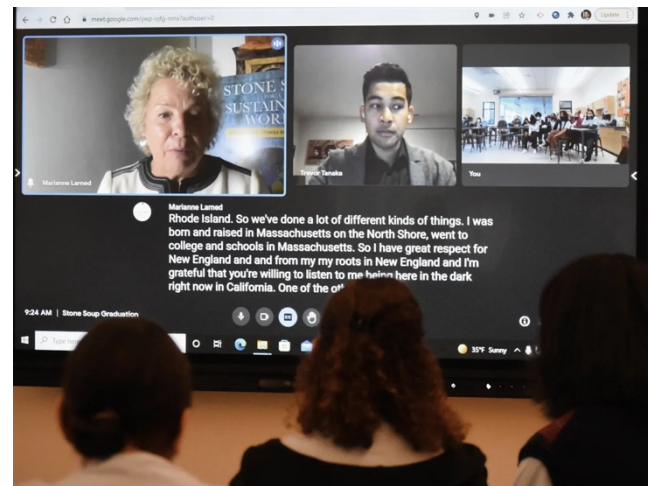
Patricia Dias
BETA Program Facilitator



It's been an honor to work with Durfee High School to develop the Institute's East Coast BETA Program. We've been impressed with the dedication from CTE Teacher Tess Bradley, support from CTE Director Cynthia Silvia and commitment from Principal Matt

Demarais. We are grateful to our partners at Bristol Community College and the Fall River business community. Our team treasured their time with Ms. Bradley and her students – and are excited to see how they pursue their sustainable career pathways. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with Durfee High School.

Marianne Larned
Author, Founding Director





About The Stone Soup Leadership Institute

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is a 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop multicultural digital educational tools, youth leadership initiatives, and technical assistance for sustainable workforce development. Founded in 1997 on Martha's Vineyard, we've synthesized the lessons we've learned along the way, and developed a grassroots model to train local leaders, exchange innovative solutions, and build resilient communities that can, by working together, build a better world. For the last 25 years, the Institute has been working alongside ocean communities—from Puerto Rico to Martha's Vineyard, from Hawaii to Rhode Island from the British Virgin Islands to the Philippines. Our annual Sustainability Summits and year-round youth community leadership initiatives help young people develop the skills they need to develop their personal, professional, and planetary goals: Career Mentor & Job Shadow Day Program. College Prep & Community Service Program, and our annual Sustainability Summit. Youth leaders from these communities created a 2020 Report for Sustainable Development challenging their leaders to develop policies that balance protecting their communities' fragile ecosystems, providing for their families, creating opportunities for their children, and building a just, equitable, and sustainable future. Through this work we've inspired hundreds of underserved multicultural youth around the world to become effective leaders.

The Institute's Educational Partnerships: Transition to Sustainable Economy

The Institute has longstanding relationships in schools and communities around the world, but these communities are small, and in some cases isolated. Language is a barrier, as is geography. With the increase of ed-tech tools that allow for reach and access to the most vulnerable among us around the globe, we have shifted our resources to help get our bilingual educational tools, books, and other multimedia works digitized and available for licensure in a digital portal at schools around the country and around the world. With these tools and trainings, we want to be able to provide jobs training and a pipeline to employment for people in those vulnerable groups who are most in need.

• **Professional Development:** The Institute is committed to scaling its train-the-trainer program for teachers to offer the educational tools they need to prepare their students for the transition to the green/blue economy. The Institute's Professional Development trains them and serves as a network that is building bridges between employers, educational institutions, community organizations, and young people who are seeking ways to rebuild their communities and the planet.

• **Scaling Up:** The Institute has BETA-tested our educational platform in eight unique communities in the U.S. and around the world. We are eager to scale this platform to reach more schools and businesses nationwide and are partnering with forward-thinking allies across industries to help aid the youth who are eager to expand their passion for sustainable living to develop blue/green careers. These allies include progressive educators and career counselors; libraries and home schoolers seeking educational resources for bilingual learners; and schools in need of STEM resources to supplement their curricula. We are partnering with a diverse advisors from businesses across the green-blue sectors, environmental organizations, educational institutions, technical and vocational programs, as well as youth across the country who long to help to create a more equitable and sustainable future.

Stone Soup Leadership Institute

- [Stonesoupleadership.org](https://stonesoupleadership.org)
- SustainWDN.com
- Sustainabilityisfun.net