

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Sustainable Career Mentor Initiative

We are kicking off 2023 with exciting news that could help solve the greatest challenge of the 21st century. The transition to a sustainable economy is estimated to generate over 10 million new jobs. To meet this challenge, The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is launching the Sustainable Career Mentor Initiative, a disruptive model designed to fast-track this emerging industry by connecting sustainability-oriented professionals as virtual mentors with young people in marginalized communities so they can pursue green jobs. This model will catalyze a regionally focused sustainable workforce development pipeline.

The Stone Soup Leadership Institute integrates Design Thinking, Systems Change, and Healthy Communities to build partnerships with business, education, government and civic leaders to train the next generation of multicultural youth to build a sustainable economy. The Institute is a global leader in developing educational tools, trainings and youth-community leadership initiatives designed to build a sustainable workforce and economy. The Institute's signature program is Job Shadow Day which connects professionals with high school students for a one-day exchange that culminates in an event celebrating young people and acknowledging their mentors. Pioneered with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, the Job Shadow Day is designed to minimize the time commitment of mentors while maximizing the impact on youth. It is eye-opening and life changing. On Martha's Vineyard, this customized educational program was a unique opportunity for well-connected seasonal residents to give back in a personalized meaningful way. As they gained a greater awareness of the challenges facing today's youth, they opened their rolodex and doors to scholarships, internships and jobs. Over the years, the Job Shadow Day has connected thousands of mentors with young people to help develop a new generation of leaders.

The Institute is seeking partners to prototype a regional model and then scale this initiative nationally and globally.

It was enlightening for me to learn how disconnected our youth in our region are from our local industry. We have an absolute opportunity 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 help them develop their dreams and ultimately ignite local communities with much needed solutions to local challenges. Imagine what we can accomplish if we could develop capacity to address our sustainability promise and challenges. I look forward to helping this great workforce development initiative.

Anthony Baro, e2Sol Fall River, MA

The Institute's SustainWDNTM

For the last 6 years, the Institute has been working with leaders in business, government and education in five New England communities to develop **SustainWDN.**TM This cutting-edge sustainable workforce development platform is an online ecosystem that builds bridges between young people, educators, community colleges and blue-green companies. It is a customized program that connects youth to STEM & workforce development opportunities that prepare them for sustainable career pathways that lead to internships, apprenticeships, certificates and good-paying green jobs.

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The Institute's Sustainable Career Mentor Initiative: Piloted for Job Shadow Day; Feb. 2

This is the first **Green Job Shadow Day** is virtual! In 1994 we developed the very first Job Shadow Day in partnership with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. Over the years, this one-day event has grown and been adopted by national organizations as well as the U.S. Department of Labor. It is a signature program of The Institute's Leadership Initiative with communities in **Martha's Vineyard, Boston, Hawaii, Puerto Rico**: video: <u>The Institute's Job Shadow Day</u>: 2010-2019.

The Institute's hands-on model is ideally suited to be transferred to a virtual model that will allow for greater geographic reach. Up until now it's been a challenge to identify sustainability-oriented professionals in these rural communities to mentor local youth. In today's world, sustainability professionals are usually working in larger cities rather than more rural, less privileged communities. The **Sustainable Career Mentor Initiative** utilizes **The Institute's Learning Tools** and **Ed-Tech Platform** to connect them.

The Institute's Sustainable Career Mentor Initiative: 2023 Site

The Institute's 2023 Leadership Initiative in Massachusetts is being developed in partnership with strategic education, business and government leaders. This is an ideal site for the **Sustainable Career Mentor Initiative.** In June, The Institute will host its first **Global Sustainability Summit** with youth delegates from **Massachusetts** and the **Azores**, the first EU country with a Sustainability Certificate. To prepare for this incredible opportunity, our youth delegates will greatly benefit from mentors who offer guidance

Sustainable Career Pathways Video Series: Job Shadow Day: February 2023

Walter Cronkite served as the Institute's chairperson for over a decade. Thanks to his leadership we have produced hundreds of educational videos that inspire and educate young people to become leaders in their communities. In the Institute's Sustainable Career Pathways Video Series, these professionals all claim that mentors were the key to their success – to open their eyes to new opportunities and ways of thinking – as well as to open their rolodex and doors to internships and jobs.

Kersey Sturdivant, Marine Biologist, INSPIRE Environmental: <u>video</u>
Sara Canuel, Environmental Educator: Bristol Agricultural High School <u>video</u>
Wilgins Salon, Waste Water Management, Town of Wareham: <u>video</u>
Oscar Tobacia: Offshore Wind: EDF Renewables North America: <u>Video</u>

Premieres: 2023

- > Stories, Lesson Plans & Videos
- > STEM & Language Arts Activities
- Sustainability Innovations
- ➤ Sustainable Career Pathways
- Aligned with NGSS and state standards.
- SustainWDN™ Job Shadow Day: Feb. 2
 - First virtual Job Shadow Day with business, government and educator leaders and Bristol County Agricultural High School, Dighton, MA

Background on The Institute's Learning Tools & Ed-Tech Platform

The *Stone Soup for the World* series is a comprehensive set of inspiring educational tools that includes books, curricula, videos and professional development that address state mandates: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI), Social Emotional Learning (SEL), and Climate Education. The Institute's professional development tools and training for educators help maximize the use of these lesson plans in the classroom and increase student engagement. We are transferring The Institute's Learning Tools & Training to an online platform with our courses, career mentoring and planning, leadership, community service, sustainability, and climate education.

Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes features 100 sustainability innovators from 38 countries, and 32 cities in the U.S.. Our Companion Educational Curriculum is a dynamic, solutions-oriented program with customized lesson plans that highlight the values and academic disciplines of Language Arts and STEM activities as well as Sustainable Innovations and Sustainable Career Pathways, to help

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