

ReGeneration Corps USVI – St. Croix

Youth Leadership • Environmental Action • Real-World Skills

Program Overview

The USVI ReGeneration Corps is an **experiential education program for students in grades 8–11 on St. Croix**. Meeting twice a month at **P.E.A.C.E. International Headquarters** and on partner farms and field sites across the island, the program combines **classroom learning, hands-on projects, and community engagement** to help youth explore solutions for climate change, food security, and environmental health.

Students gain experience in **regenerative agriculture, conservation, and environmental science** while working directly with local farmers, cultural practitioners, and environmental experts. Each session integrates [Envirothon training](#), an international environmental problem-solving competition where teams apply their knowledge of soils, water, forestry, wildlife, and the year's current issue. Through this integration, participants practice real-world science skills while preparing to represent St. Croix on an international stage.

Adapted from the Vermont ReGeneration Corps, the program addresses real solutions to climate change while being deeply rooted in the culture and environment of the Virgin Islands. Participants build practical skills, strengthen teamwork, and explore pathways to future education and careers—all while supporting a more resilient St. Croix.

The program also connects students to a broader network of partners, including **Parafruit Education Inc. of Miami** and **Chattahoochee Hills Charter School/Your Faith Farms in Georgia**. These collaborations expand opportunities in **STEAM, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy**, offering tools like *Money Movez: Cooked or Be Cooked*, an interactive program that teaches students how to make informed decisions about saving, investing, and business creation.

By weaving together local expertise with national and regional partnerships, the USVI ReGeneration Corps equips students with skills they can use in school, future jobs, and everyday life—while also supporting efforts to build a more sustainable and resilient U.S. Virgin Islands.

Program Goals

- **Hands-On Skills** – Teach youth soil science, forestry, water systems, agroforestry, and regenerative farming through field-based labs and service learning days.
- **Career Preparation** – Provide exposure to USDA careers, conservation planning, environmental science, and entrepreneurship.
- **Community Resilience** – Connect youth learning to real-world challenges in food security, climate adaptation, and sustainable development.
- **Cultural Relevance** – Root program activities in local traditions, indigenous practices, and the concept of *Jegna*—a model of mentorship that uplifts and empowers young people to see themselves as capable and resilient.
- **Youth Engagement** – Inspire students to actively contribute to solutions for their communities while earning community service credits and building their resumes.

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- **Family and School Partnerships** – Engage parents through orientation and volunteer activities, and connect with teachers to expand learning into schools.

Benefits for Partners

Partnership is central to the ReGeneration Corps model. By working with us, organizations, schools, and agencies can:

- **Support Workforce Development** – Help prepare the next generation for professions in agriculture, conservation, and environmental science.
- **Strengthen Food Security** – Collaborate on projects that improve access to healthy, local food and reduce reliance on imports.
- **Enhance Community Engagement** – Showcase your organization's work to families, educators, and students across St. Croix.
- **Build Educational Pathways** – Create direct pipelines from high school programs to internships, apprenticeships, and career opportunities.
- **Contribute to Resilience** – Be part of a coordinated effort to address climate change, economic stability, and environmental justice in the Virgin Islands.

Partnerships in Action

The ReGeneration Corps works with a growing network of **local, regional, and national partners**:

- **Parafruit Education Inc. (Miami, FL)**: Provides *Money Movez: Cooked or Be Cooked*, an interactive financial literacy program that integrates STEAM and entrepreneurship.
- **Chattahoochee Hills Charter School & Your Faith Farms (Georgia)**: Shares models of experiential STEAM education rooted in agriculture, the environment, and the arts.
- **White River Natural Resources Conservation District (Vermont)**: Serves as a regional partner, supporting workforce exchanges and shared learning between youth in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Vermont's ReGeneration Corps students.
- **Local Farms and Cultural Leaders (St. Croix)**: Host student visits, share traditional ecological knowledge, and guide service-learning projects.

Want to Partner with ReGeneration Corps?

Examples of partnership opportunities:

- Host a field day, tour, or workshop for students.
- Serve as a mentor, guest speaker, or "Jegna" (trusted guide).
- Provide internship, scholarship, or fellowship opportunities.
- Support service projects with supplies, tools, or staff time.
- Sponsor transportation, meals, or stipends for students.
- Collaborate on curriculum development or research projects.

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- Be an Envirothon Station Lead / Judge: Soil, Aquatics, Forestry, Wildlife, Oral Presentation

Program Structure

- **Student Application Period:** September 1 - October 15, 2025
- **Duration:** November 2025 – May 2026
- **Schedule:** Typically Two Saturdays per month, 1–4 PM
- **Locations:** Peace International HQ, local farms, markets, and other field sites
- **Capstone & Competition:** Students complete a Capstone Project and compete as teams in the St. Croix Envirothon on May 9, 2026: an international environmental problem-solving competition that challenges teams to apply their knowledge of soils, water, forestry, wildlife, and a current issue to real-world case studies.

Sample Sessions:

- Orientation & Team Building (tree planting, defining regeneration and Jegna)
- Water Systems & Irrigation (treatment plant visit, drip irrigation installation)
- Mangrove Education & Indigenous Knowledge (guest elders, fieldwork)
- Food Systems & Entrepreneurship (farmers' markets, retail comparison)
- Farm Work Brigades (tree planting, invasive species removal, agroforestry)
- Envirothon Prep & Competition Practice
- College & Career Pathways Workshop (mock interviews, resume building, scholarships)

Family & Community Engagement

Parents and guardians play an important role in student success. Families are asked to:

- Attend orientation and closing celebration.
- Volunteer for at least two activities.
- Support students in their capstone projects.

Community members and organizations are invited to serve as mentors, hosts, “jegnas”, or collaborators. Together, we are building a youth-powered movement for food and climate justice in the Virgin Islands.

Get Involved

The ReGeneration Corps USVI is currently seeking **partners, sponsors, and collaborators** to help expand opportunities for youth.

Ways to Get Involved:

- Become a **program partner** by hosting sessions or mentoring students.
- Provide **financial support** for transportation, materials, or scholarships.
- Join our **network of educators and community leaders** working toward sustainable agriculture and climate resilience in the Virgin Islands.
- Volunteer to **lead a station** at the St Croix Envirothon on May 9, 2026

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