A current board member of the Chesapeake Conservancy, Dr. Mamie Parker is the former Assistant Director of Fisheries and Habitat Conservation at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Prior to this position, she made history when appointed the first African American the FWS Regional Director of the 13 Northeastern states. Dr. Parker has an extensive amount of experience as a fish and wildlife biologist and an executive. She worked in Genoa; La Crosse; Madison, and Lake Mills, Wisconsin; Columbia, Missouri; New London and Minneapolis, Minnesota; Atlanta, Georgia; Hadley, MA; and Washington, D.C. She served as the Ecosystem Coordinator in the Great Lakes and Big Rivers Region and worked in many programs including the national fish hatcheries, national wetlands and coastal mapping, contaminants, invasive species, marine mammals, wetland restoration and protection programs among others. Parker was designated the authorized official for the negotiations with General Electric Corporation to clean up the Hudson River and played a major role in helping to protect our nation’s waters from the invasive species such as the Asian Carp and Snakehead fish. This extensive amount of experience led her to receiving the Annual Ira Gabrielson Award, an award to given by FWS leaders to the most outstanding leader. The President of the United States presented Dr. Parker, a Senior Executive Service member, with the Presidential Rank award, the highest award given to government employees. She has appeared on the Steve Harvey Show and featured in Dudley Edmundson’s Black and Brown Faces in America’s Wild Places”. She is an author in the American Fisheries Society’s most recently released book entitled “The Future of Fisheries”. The Governor of Arkansas inducted her into the Arkansas Hall of Fame for her accomplishment as the first Arkansas native to rise to the Head of Fisheries in this country. Parker is a leader in various organizations and serves as a Board of Directors of the National Wildlife Refuge Association; Defenders of Wildlife; and the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership Steering Committee. The Council of World Women Leaders, under the leadership of former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and women prime ministers, awarded her with an Aspen Institute fellowship. In this capacity, she participated in an exchange program and gave speeches to the Prime Minister cabinet members, legislators and the U. S. Ambassador in the Kingdom of Lesotho, in addition to various natural resource organizations in Cape Town and Johannesburg, South Africa.