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Contact: Kindra Greene, [kindra.greene@elizabethrivertrail.org](mailto:kindra.greene@elizabethrivertrail.org), 757.681.1405

## **The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation Named tHRive's Organization of the Year**

NORFOLK, Va. – (January 2024) – The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation has been named as the tHRive Organization of the Year. tHRive is a young professionals program of the Hampton Roads Chamber. The group cultivates regional awareness and community development by providing a platform to empower young professionals, give them a voice, and invest in the future of the region.

With members across Hampton Roads, tHRive will support the ERT through beautification projects at the managed meadow in Chelsea and the donor sculpture by the Pagoda, shoreline restoration at Plum Point Park, fundraising, and special events and programs including the Glow Party, Puppy Parade, Clean the Bay Day and International Coastal Cleanup.

“The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation is honored to be chosen by tHRive, and we look forward to many collaborations and volunteer support to continue the Foundation’s mission,” said Kindra Greene, executive director.

About the partnership, Abby Smith, regional engagement chair, said, “tHRive is thrilled to be working closely with the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation for the next two years. This partnership will allow our members to volunteer, raise awareness, and advocate for this important riverfront fixture in our community. Many of our members interact with this trail daily through where they live, work, or socialize.”

“We look forward to collaborating with the ERT team and creating opportunities for our tHRive members to make a positive impact. Let’s get outside!” added Emma Royce, regional engagement vice chair.

“Working with tHRive is going to help the ERT accomplish many goals over the coming year.” said Morgan Willett, ERT Foundation assistant director. “As a staff of two, volunteers are the backbone of the Foundation and integral to our success. There are many benefits of being involved, especially the opportunities to meet and work with many different people so it’s a win-win situation for everyone.”

The Elizabeth River Trail Foundation’s mission is to create an inclusive and resilient urban riverfront trail that connects and inspires people and businesses in the Hampton Roads region. The Elizabeth River Trail runs 10.5 miles through businesses, historic attractions and 28

neighborhoods within a five-minute walk. The multi-use trail is designed for walking, running, and biking. It comprises 11 sections from Norfolk State University, through Downtown Norfolk and Old Dominion University to NIT Terminals along the Elizabeth River. The Foundation has completed multiple new unique and award-winning amenities, including kayak launches, play sculpture, a double turbo challenge course in Plum Point Park, The Glowline and most recently, the installation of the first ERT hydration station. Major sponsors include the City of Norfolk and Sentara. For more information, visit [elizabethrivertrail.org](http://elizabethrivertrail.org).

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