

## Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania Project Report: 2022 Rising Nation River Journey

- **A report detailing expenditures against the approved budget.**

This year's Rising Nation River Journey was a huge success, and the mini-grant was hugely helpful in making it so. The grant money went toward providing accommodations for our Elders and Core Group (LNPA paddlers and NCSP Safety Team Members who attend the entire event). Without this funding, these people would have only been able to attend these dates if they could pay for their own accommodations, which is prohibitive for many. While there were camping accommodations available for some of the Cape May dates, the location is notorious for being very cramped, uncomfortable, and unsuitable for elders; several returning attendees noted that they would be unable to camp there this year. Thanks to the mini-grant, this was not a problem.

1 Bed & Breakfast for Elders & Core Group in Wynnewood PA, 8/15 – 8/17: \$2,361.83

1 Bed & Breakfast for Elders & Core Group in Cape May NJ, 8/17 – 8/21: \$4,401.00

- **A description of the work accomplished**

The Rising Nation River Journey and signing of the Treaty of Renewed Friendship brings together organizations and individuals interested in raising awareness of Lenape history, presence, and culture, acting as caretakers of the Delaware River and surrounding environment, and enjoying the river recreationally. This year's Journey took place from 7/29 to 8/21, during which time we paddled the Delaware River from Hancock NY to Lambertville PA, and from Higbee Beach to Sunset Beach in Cape May NJ. All throughout these paddles, and in the Philadelphia-area interim between them, we held signings of the Treaty of Renewed Friendship. The people who gather to paddle, attend events, and/or sign the treaty raise awareness of the recreational allure of the Delaware as well as the importance of caretaking it. This year's event has been our most productive so far, with 85 organizations and 248 individuals who signed the Treaty. These signings lead to vital environmentally-based collaborations throughout the years. All organizations who signed the treaty were invited to speak about their organization in order to raise awareness of their environmental initiatives and network with like-minded people and organizations. Further background is available on our website: <https://www.lenape-nation.org/1st-project>

- **Photos and/or videos of the project**

We are currently working on an online photo-album, but it is not yet available.

- **A listing of any matching funds, in-kind services/goods and volunteer contributions received by the Grantee in support of the project**

1. We were awarded a \$5000 grant by the Mountain Watershed Association
2. Our coordinator, committee, land-crew, safety team, and ceremonial leaders all donated their time. We are hoping to offer some reimbursement for their mileage and possibly their time after all of our expenses are covered, though they do not require or expect this.

- **A description of any unexpected benefits or challenges encountered during implementation**

We had more attendees, paddlers, and treaty-signers than anticipated, and the accommodations provided by the grant made our final weeks more strongly attended than ever before!

- **A description of any changes to timeline, funding needs or other pertinent changes**

None except that the majority of pictures are not yet available.

- **Copies of all publicity and acknowledgements of the Mini-Grant Program's support for the project, (e.g., copy of signage, media announcements, newsletter articles, annual report mention, etc.)**

1. We thank LDWS for the Grant on our webpage: <https://www.lenape-nation.org/1st-project>
2. We announced the mini-grant and thanked Richard & the LWDS personally at the treaty-signing events he attended.
3. We will discuss the Journey and the mini-grant in our September Newsletter.

- **Other pertinent support materials such as funding plans, maintenance and upkeep reports, etc.**

Please let me know if you need anything from me in this regard.