

IMPACT100 SOUTH JERSEY

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Executive Summary – Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Organization Name - Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Organization website - www.pinelandsalliance.org

County where located/counties being served – Site Location: Burlington County. Counties Served: Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, and Gloucester

Organization Mission: The Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) was founded in 1989 to protect the natural and cultural resources of the New Jersey Pinelands—a 1.1 million-acre region of great ecological significance in southern New Jersey. In order to build the community of people who know and love the Pinelands, PPA

Advocates for:

- protecting the region's unique resources;
- provides recreation services and
- education programs through our Pinelands Adventures.

Programs Offered:

- carries out stewardship and trail projects;
- partners with public and private landowners to create green infrastructure and restore habitats;
- promotes scientific research; and
- operates Rancocas Creek Farm, a regenerative farm at our headquarters in Southampton.
- working to overcome the barriers that individuals with disabilities face in enjoying the wonderful natural places of the Pinelands.

Organization's Total Operating Budget: FY 2021 (January to December) income was approximately \$2.6 million.

Project Name: The Pinelands is for Everyone

Project Description:

PPA is seeking \$100,000 over two years to grow our capacity and implement programs that increase access to nature for people with disabilities and their caregivers, based on the learning and relationships we have gained to date. The initiative will include:

- Creating an ongoing forum for engagement and information exchange by people with disabilities interested in nature;
- Conducting a communications campaign to send the message that New Jersey's natural places are here for people with disabilities to enjoy through low-impact recreation, just as they are for the broader population;
- Promoting and improving the Access Nature NJ app for sites in Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Cumberland Counties;
- Designing and carrying out inclusive eco tours at Rancocas Creek Farm and in natural places within the four counties that are suitable for people with and people without disabilities and
- Testing and purchasing trail-adapted wheelchairs for our guests to use on eco tours.

Background: PPA has prepared for this project this past year by building a network of partners from the disabilities community, and hosting town halls and focus groups to listen and understand the needs of people with disabilities. PPA will launch a mobile app this summer, Access Nature NJ which will provide

information on accessible nature sites, address the specific concerns of people with disabilities and caregivers, and help families plan outings with confidence.