## **Painted Rocks River**

Inspired by an elementary school's art project found here: <u>https://www.scarymommy.com/only-one-you-sharon-elementary-</u> painted-rocks-art-project/

This project will bring residents together by sharing some of the traditional imagery from their culture, religion, or childhood. Supplies can either be gathered by residents or by the property. This will require an outdoor or indoor space with which to display the project, ideally permanently. This can create pride in the property as well as sharing stories and histories of residents.

## You will need:

- 1. Smooth Rocks
- 2. Acrylic paints or paint pens
- 3. Paintbrushes
- 4. Plates for paints and cups for water to clean brushes
- 5. Paper towels or napkins for clean up
- 6. A clear top coat paint for outdoor use if this will be displayed outdoors
- 7. Garden Stakes (optional)

## Instructions:

- 1. Select a date and time to create the project and inform residents of the project.
- 2. Create clean surfaces for working on the day of the project. Make sure rocks are clean of dirt.
- 3. Have residents bring a design, symbol, or motif from their culture that they identify with. This can be a cultural symbol, religious symbol, or something that makes them think of their childhood.
- 4. Have residents select a rock and paint the symbol on said rock. While painting residents should share what the symbol is and what it means to them.
- 5. Work together to arrange the rocks in the desired display space.
- 6. Once arranged, place stakes near symbols from the same culture or religion and write where they are from. This step is optional, but can display the variety of cultures present in the property.

## **Physical Distancing Adaptations:**

- 1. Disperse Instructions and supplies to participants by delivery to their doors.
- 2. Give residents a time frame to complete their piece and write a small explanation of their stone. A video conference could be held for residents to work on their pieces together is technology is available.
- 3. Have residents leave the completed piece outside their doors at a specified time and date.
- 4. Assemble the stones in an area previously decided on by residents or where allowed on the property.