Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice

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Co-Chairs: Barb Munson and Liz Bruno Organizer: Z! Haukeness, zh@wnpj.org Administrator: Dace Zeps, office@wnpj.org Veterans for Peace: Steve Books, books24u@aol.com

State of the Network address, Presented October 15th, 2016 at the WNPJ Fall Assembly Highlights from November 1st 2015 – October 15th 2016

Accomplishments for the year

- Fall 2015: Multiple Board members, Paula Mohan and Barb Munson participated on the Mascot committee for MMSD. Their task was to decide on the details of the policy that was adopted to ban the use of race-based mascots on students' clothing and a number of other issues related to race-based native mascots.
- Fall 2015: The committee for the Racial Justice Tipping Point coalesced and began planning the goals, structure, strategy, and next steps for the campaign.
- **November 2015:** Multiple **Peace Wreath workshops** were hosted in Madison by Carlos Miranda and Janet Parker, WNPJ Board members.
- Fall 2015 and Spring 2016: Ongoing support for Young Gifted and Black and Freedom Inc community control over police, hands off Black women, and other initiatives
- **December 2015:** Helped put on **Generative Somatics** event in collaboration with WI Voices. This is a social justice leadership development training that many leading social justice organizations attended.
- Winter 2015-2016: Showed support for Lisa Mitchell to get free by showing up at rallies, promoting people to make phone calls and write letters to help get her released from unjust incarceration.
- Winter 2016-Present: Our incredible intern Julia's started a project of doing spotlight interviews and photos on member organizations around the state. We published these regularly on social media and through e-mail.
- Winter 2016-Present: Dace and Z! Have worked hard to recruit more volunteer power. We have worked hard to recruit, train and support new volunteers who work regularly on our communications and other projects.
- Winter 2016: Showed up to help protect our mounds by putting out a call to action, showing up at rallies, making phone calls and supporting native leadership to defeat proposed legislation that would have demolished many sacred mounds.
- **Spring 2016:** Barb and Z! presented at **Widening the Circle** conference in La Crosse regarding the Racial Justice Tipping Point and encouraged participants to join. This is a conference rooted in Act 31 and is about Native and Hmong education.
- Spring 2016: Barb and Z! Also did a Presentation at Wisconsin Indian Education Association conference in Madison about the Racial Justice Tipping Point.
- May 2016: We kicked off the RJTP in May at James Reeb Church in Madison with 100 participants.
- June 2016: Along with Groundwork we hosted Showing Up for Racial Justice to do a training on **Deep Canvassing** and met with racial justice organizations in Milwaukee to talk more about this project.
- June 2016: As we do annually, we hosted a Pancakes for Peace breakfast at the MREA fair.

- June 2016: We collaborated with the Haven's center to plan the Forward Wisconsin conference in WI Dells and gave a presentation about the RJTP. July 2016: We hosted a conference call on racial justice initiatives across the state including the hunger strike, immigrant rights work, and community control over police with guest speakers.
- July 2016: As part of a week of actions for Freedom Now put out by the Movement for Black
 Lives, supported by Showing Up for Racial Justice, we hosted a direct action training with other
 local partner groups.
- August 2016: Our August board meeting was in Luck WI and we got to stay at the intentional community where Nukewatch, a member organization of WNPJ is housed, hosted by our board member Bonnie.
- August 2016: We participated again as an annual co-sponsor of Lanterns for Peace event in Madison.
- **September 2016:** Thanks to the work of Sister Sally Ann Brickner and Sisters of St Agnes, we were able to host a training for 100 people to learn about and get engaged in the **Racial Justice Tipping Point in Fond Du Lac.**
- Early Fall 2016: Thanks to the help of volunteer Tim Cordon, we launched a test project called Neighborhoods for Racial Justice in the East Emerson neighborhood in Madison. A group of people there are beginning living room conversations on the RJTP and the Movement for Black Lives Policy platform.
- Early Fall 2016: Co-sponsored events by Medea Benjamin in collaboration with other groups who did the heavy lifting of bringing her here.
- Summer 2016: Our volunteers have been tabling at the farmers' market and other events including Labor Fest in September

2016 Year To Date Financial Activity

