

NEWSLETTER--MARCH/APRIL 2022

Ignite Spaces of Healing-Events and Actions

THROUGHOUT THE MONTHS OF MARCH AND APRIL WAKING WOMEN CONTINUES TO CREATE SPACES OF LEARNING AND HEALING. HERE ARE A FEW SPACES OF KNOWLEDGE SHARING WITH UNIVERSITIES, COALITIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING: UW WAUKESHA, UW PLATTEVILLE, WCASA-WI COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND AAUW (NON-PROFIT).



3/16 WCASA Self-Care Presentation for Survivor Advocates of WI

3/2 Lingering Effects of the Doctrine of Discovery

3/22 Colonialism and Violence Against Women

4/23 Doctrine of Discovery

4/28 -No More MMIR Chicago Pow Wow-

Ignite Spaces of Healing -Events and Actions

4/28

WE WERE ABLE TO BE IN COMMUNITY WITH OUR CHICAGO RELATIVES TO HONOR OUR MISSING AND MURDERED. WĀĒWĀĒNEN TO AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES CHICAGO AND FELLOW SPONSORS FOR ORGANIZING THIS EVENT. IT WAS A GOOD REMINDER OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALING OUR WOUNDS, AND HOW WE CAN UPLIFT SURVIVORS' VOICES.



- TOP PICTURE-- JEANIE HOVLAND AND OUR FOUNDER ED PREPARE TO SPEAK TO COMMUNITY ABOUT ISSUES OF MMIW AT LOCAL AND FEDERAL LEVELS.
- BOTTOM PICTURE--MMIW HEALING AND RESPONSE ADVOCATE ALYSSE CORN, WITH SON, AND MOTHER RAE-ELAINE TOURTILLOTT.

Restore the Matriarchy- Healing and Empowering

RECLAIMING WHO WE ARE, CONNECTING TO IDENTITY, AND DE-COLONIZING MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT ARE ACTS OF HEALING THAT EMPOWER US TO LIVE A FULL AND COMPLETE LIFE. WE RECOGNIZE THAT MANY TIMES OVER THE WESTERN SYSTEMS PROVIDE OUR MMIWG2S FAMILIES AND SURVIVORS LITTLE TO NO JUSTICE AND CONTINUE TO CAUSE HARM THROUGH THEIR PROCESSES. WE CHOOSE DIFFERENTLY, WE STAND WITH OUR FAMILIES, SURVIVORS, AND COMMUNITY IN A "HEART CENTERED" WAY. SAFETY OF MIND, BODY, SPIRIT IS CENTRAL TO OUR WORK. WE WILL FOLLOW THROUGH ALWAYS, WITH OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR RELATIVES, THAT IS OUR JUSTICE.



- TOP PICTURE-- COMMUNITY HEALING AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SHARING VOICE, LAUGHTER, AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE.
- BOTTOM PICTURE--ART BUILD- JUSTICE FOR NANGONHS BA MASSEY- FAMILY AND COMMUNITY COME TOGETHER THE DAY BEFORE THE FINAL SENTENCING HEARING FOR NANGONHS BA MASSEY.

20 years and 8 months....

THAT WAS THE OUTCOME DURING THE FINAL SENTENCING HEARING FOR NANGONHS BA MASSEY HELD ON APRIL 14TH 2022. WE CAN HARDLY DESCRIBE THE BRAVERY, COURAGE, AND STRENGTH OF THIS FAMILY, ESPECIALLY THE MOTHER MELISSA PAMP, TO NANGONHS BA, AS THEY FOUGHT 2 LONG YEARS TO ENSURE JUSTICE FOR THEIR RELATIVE. WE CANNOT EVER FULLY EXPLAIN WHAT IT IS LIKE TO SIT IN THAT COURTROOM, AS WE LISTEN TO MELISSA DESCRIBE HER PAIN FOR HER IMMEASURABLE LOSS. ONLY TO HAVE THE JUDGE SHOW MORE EMPATHY AND CONCERN FOR THE MURDERER WHO RECKLESSLY TOOK THE LIFE OF NANGONHS BA THAN THAT OF A GRIEVING MOTHER, HER CHILD LEFT BEHIND, AND COUNTLESS RELATIVES FOREVER CHANGED. INJUSTICE?



- PICTURE-- NANGONHS BA MASSEY- LOVING MOTHER, DAUGHTER, SIBLING, RELATIVE WHO IS AND WAS A SHINING STAR TO SO MANY

DESPITE 7 COURT DELAYS, LITTLE COMMUNICATION FROM SYSTEMS, POOR MEDIA COVERAGE, AND MANY CHANGING OF HANDS; THEY REMAINED DETERMINED. THEY FOUGHT BY KEEPING HER STORY VISIBLE IN RALLIES, WALKS, ART BUILDS, AND VIGILS. THEY CAME TOGETHER TO HELP EACH OTHER HEAL AND SUPPORTED EACH OTHER AS A COMMUNITY, IN CEREMONY AND SONG. THEY RESEARCHED AND CAREFULLY MONITORED THEIR CASE AND ENGAGING THEIR OWN SYSTEM EXPERTS. THEY FIGHT FOR HER STILL TO THIS DAY. MELISSA IS DETERMINED TO ENSURE THAT NO FAMILY WILL HAVE TO EXPERIENCE THIS HARM FROM SYSTEMS AND IS WORKING HARD TO CREATE INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE FOR THE FUTURE. SHE, AND THIS ENTIRE FAMILY ARE THE TRUE WARRIOR, AND WE ARE HONORED TO WALK WITH THEM IN THIS JOURNEY.

Uplift Survivor Voice

DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL, WAKING WOMEN HOSTED A 2-DAY TRAINING FOR COMMUNITIES AROUND WI AT THE NORTH STAR CASINO RESORT. THE TRAINING, FACILITATED BY LENNY HAYES MA SISSETON WAHPETON-OYATE, FOCUSED ON THE IMPACTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST MEN AND BOYS. AS WELL AS THE IMPACTS OF HISTORICAL AND INTER-GENERATIONAL TRAUMA ON NATIVE LBGTQ AND TWO SPIRITS. THE TWO-DAY TRAINING CHALLENGED PARTICIPANTS TO LOOK AT ONE'S OWN BIAS AROUND TWO SPIRIT, NATIVE LBGBTQ, AND MALE SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE. SELF-CARE OF MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT WAS UPLIFTED THROUGHOUT BOTH DAYS AS PARTICIPANTS WENT ON THIS HEALING AND LEARNING JOURNEY.



- TOP PICTURE--TRAINER LENNY HAYES, MA- TALKS ABOUT THE POWER OF WORDS, BIAS, AND DE-COLONIZING GENDER AND HEALING WORK
- BOTTOM LEFT--PARTICIPANTS FROM ONEIDA, MENOMINEE, MINNESOTA, HO-CHUNK, BAD RIVER, STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE, & NEENAH.