

NJ American Indian Commission Newsletter

www.nj.gov/state/njcaia.shtml



August 2024



Ramapough Munsee “Awakening the Ancestors” Pow-Wow

The Ramapough Munsee tribe held their traditional pow-wow July 4th through 7th. This is the first tribal gathering since the beginning of the pandemic. Thank you to all who came out to show their support and enjoy a weekend of fun, dancing, and culture!

Top News

New Discussion Group Launch:
Introducing Our SUD Talks with
Prevention Specialist Shannan
Henry!

This group will have its second meeting on Wednesday, August 28th. Visit the commission website for more info!



Pow-Wow Grand Entry

Commission News

August 2024

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Our Current Projects

Intertribal Youth Conference

- The commission is organizing a youth conference open to all tribal youth of NJ. More details to come!

SUD Narcan Training

- The Commission is working on creating opportunities for community members to be trained on how to administer Narcan.



Whats New?

On August 9th, members of the commission were invited to join an American Indian and Alaska Native Veteran Suicide Prevention talking circle. The focus of the meeting was on how to raise awareness to challenges faced by AI/AN veterans and discuss strategies for healing and suicide prevention. The group discussed available resources both through the VA and non-VA organizations. There was discussion of the possibility of having an event... "Fall Fest" possibly on tribal grounds. Their next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September.



HCPO Candlelight Vigil

The commission team was honored to have been part of the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office Candlelight Vigil for International Overdose Day. The event was well received and many connections with the community were made.



Upcoming Community Events

8/28 - 6:30 - 7:30pm: The NJ Commission on American Indian Affairs is happy to present SUD Talks with our very own Shannan Henry! This virtual discussion group is designed to help bring together our community while also educating about substance use disorders. SUD Talks will be held monthly. More details can be found on the commission website.

8/30 - 2:00pm - 5:00pm: The Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services is hosting the Salem County Overdose Awareness Day. Come out to visit the remembrance wall, get resources from local agencies, and get free Narcan training. There will also be free treats and water ice!

9/4 - 11:00am: Urban Treatment Associates, Inc. holds a monthly NARCAN training. The next training will be located at the Center For Family Services Center 574 Benson Street Camden, NJ 08103. To register contact Jennifer Hicks at **(856) 726-0005** or **Narcan@utassoc.com**.

9/26 - 10:00am: The New Jersey Commission on American Indian Affairs will hold a public meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. Meeting Topics to include: Commission newsletter; updates on COVID and Substance Use Disorder; planning a youth conference; and tribal updates. Meeting information can be found on our website.

Future exhibits-

Claudis Ocello, President of Museum Partners, is working with NJ State Archives on an exhibit to be housed at the NJ State Museum in 2026 around the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and would like to include voices from NJ Tribal communities.

Health News

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COVID-19 Grant

COVID-19 Updates:

- Early in the month of August, there has been 19 cases of COVID recorded at the Nanticoke Lenape Tribe.
- The Coordinator of the Nanticoke Lenape Tribe prepares and presents online education topics on COVID and High Blood Pressure.



Events On COVID-19

- The Nanticoke Coordinator is planning a health fair for fall gathering on 10/19 with various health vendors COVID and SUD Education.
- According to the Ramapough Tribal Coordinator, there will be Flu Vaccination Clinic on the 10/12/24



COVID-19 Tribal Coordinators

The Commission on American Indian Affairs has a number of resources related to COVID-19. This also includes our wonderful Tribal coordinators! If you ever have any COVID related concerns, here is who to contact:

Emmanuel Ogedegbe

- emmanuel.ogedegbe@sos.nj.gov

Tony Powell

- ramapoughcovidcoord@yahoo.com

Sherry Caputo

- nllcovidcoord@yahoo.com



Commission Connection

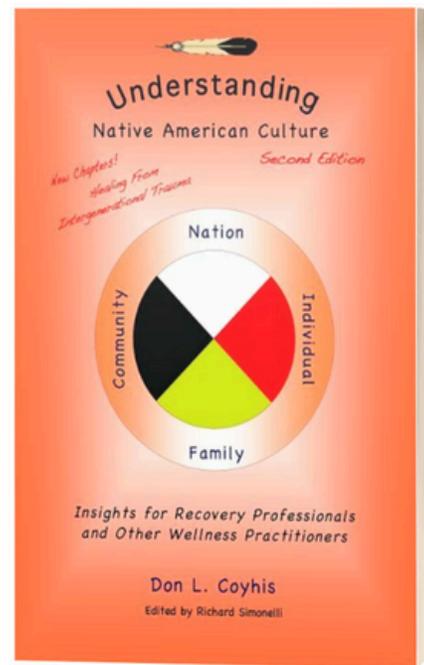
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Recommended Read!

With this issue of our newsletter we will begin our segment on recommended reads! This month's recommendation comes to us from Patricia Osterhoudt:

“Understanding Native American Culture” is a great introduction to the Native American People as a Whole. Don't let the length of this book determine it's value. It's 115 pages are packed with not only information, history, and understanding for professionals, but also for Native American people who have not had a traditional Native upbringing.



Our Contact

Lewis Fragoso

- lewis.fragoso@sos.nj.gov

Shannan Henry

- shannan.henry@sos.nj.gov

Patricia Osterhoudt

- patricia.osterhoudt@sos.nj.gov

Emmanuel Ogedegbe

- emmanuel.ogedegbe@sos.nj.gov

Month of Awareness

August is national Summer Sun Safety Month! Try to stay cool this month because when the temperature goes up, the sun beats down! Exercising and time outdoors can become challenging when the sun is beaming down in the middle of the day. Know the signs of heat-related conditions. Heat illnesses or emergencies can occur with exposure to high temperatures and humidity!

