

**Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation Community Center**

189 Stag Hill Rd. Mahwah, New Jersey 07430



Dwaine C. Perry, Tribal Chief   Petra Thombs, Executive Director

May 9, 2020

Dear Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation in White Plains, our Friends and Allies,

We hope that you are all well and safe with your loved ones in these difficult times. We wish to express our solidarity for those who are on the front lines in medicine and essential service positions. We thank you for all that you are doing for the good and wellbeing of others.

We were able to begin good work in 2019; we had an afterschool program in the spring and a summer camp in July. We obtained a small grant from the Indigenous Environmental Network for our community in Ringwood, New Jersey, in order to support their knowledge of local healing plants and spiritual reconnection to the soil. We expect to begin the work in Ringwood, perhaps delaying it until the summer.

We had hoped that we could continue our educational programming this year, but that has not been possible. We have all been greatly affected by the virus, which has caused us to cancel our events. It has impacted our relatives who were already vulnerable and in high risk categories. We are in need of your prayers for them and their families. Our center is the hub of the community, where even during these times, we store materials needed for our community.

And now we come to you with a request for support. Our roof is in great need of repair and critical upgrades are required for our electrical system. In order for our building to be a safe place for these materials and a gathering place for the community after this emergency is over, we will need to address these pressing issues.

We recognize that these are difficult times and ask that you give what you can. We are grateful to be the recipients of this congregations Share the Plate program this June, assisting organizations in their mission of service to communities in need. We are a 501-C3; your gift is tax deductible and we will provide a letter for your records. You may make your check out to Ramapough Mountain Indians, Inc. and send it c/o Petra Thombs, 159 Columbus Ave., Valhalla, New York 10595.

Thank you for your continued support for the Ramapough Lenape Community Center. We will work to keep you updated on our progress. Continue to stay safe and follow the approved recommendations at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov). We pray for an end to this crisis and look forward to being together with you all in the near future.

Anushiik,

Chief Perry

Petra Thombs



# 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW



*Anushiih (thank you) for the memories*



Petra & Bernie Thombs with Dwaine Perry, Tribal Chief, Ramapough Lenape Indian Nation

