2020-2021 Report

Greater New Jersey CoNAM

There has been a membership challenge this year; however, three dedicated members have continued the MMIW advocacy initiative. The cards are requested often, but the banner is the biggest hit at larger gatherings.

GNJ CoNAM also participated in the Boarding School Advocacy project more recently in 2021. We have replicated the advocacy cards designed by our own Paige McNatt and also created a banner. The banner is presently hanging above the entrance to St. John UMC where it was part of the Day of Remembrance for our children who perished away from their families at boarding schools. These were not just any boarding schools, but they were schools designed to erase our culture by taking it from our children. We know genocide when we see it. We know what cultural trauma is because we have felt it.

We have been called to speak at many virtual seminars at other churches, UMW’s, and most recently at a school.

Committee membership has been a problem, in some ways because of the way we in GNJ form committees. I have requested an exemption due to the need for committee stability and Native American knowledge and cultural awareness. No luck so far.

The 2022 Annual Conference is tentatively scheduled to be held in New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted Cynthia Mosley, Chair

St. John UMC