



# Maine-Wabanaki REACH

Restoration • Engagement • Advocacy • Change • Healing

Black Lives Matter.

We are Maine-Wabanaki REACH. We are a collaboration of Native and non-Native people. We condemn police brutality, state sanctioned violence, murder, and the dehumanization of Black people. We recognize that this crisis did not start with police violence, and that police violence is a tool of maintaining white supremacy.

We recognize this is a moment of accountability for REACH and that we must do better. It is not enough to take for granted that, of course, a Wabanaki organization is pro-Black, anti-racist, anti-white supremacy. We need to be vocal, deliberate, and intentional about all those things - in what we say and what we do. By not being vocal, deliberate, and intentional, we allow the killing of Black people with impunity and we are complicit.

We acknowledge that Black and Tribal communities are not entirely distinct - many Tribal people are Black and many Black people are Indigenous. We know that Black people and Indigenous people have been impacted in different ways by the same forces of white supremacy and colonization. As Indigenous people, we must stand with our Black relatives and fight for their liberation.

We acknowledge that white supremacy exists through strategies of oppression of Black and Indigenous people that benefits White people, particularly those of European descent. We know it is not enough to be passively non-racist, we need to be actively anti-racist, intentionally anti-white supremacy and pro-Black. As White people, we must acknowledge and repair the harms we have done and continue to do/allow to happen to Black people by the colonization of this country, recognize the lasting impact of these harms, and create a more just future through commitments and actions grounded in love, compassion, and generosity.

We truly believe there can be no peace without justice, and we follow the lead of Black people, organizations, and communities in this journey of truth, healing, and change. We take responsibility for our own education and we figure out the best ways to act in solidarity with Black people. We act from a lens of decolonization, of undoing the ways in which we have been indoctrinated to devalue Black people and accept their systemic dehumanization.

We support the Black Lives Matter movement and organization, we urge you to do the same.

Listen to and support Black organizations with donations. Support Black businesses. Believe Black people. Care for each other.

Black Lives Matter.