

**NARRAGANSETT INDIAN TRIBE**  
**JOHNSON-O'MALLEY PROGRAM**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2023**

**Narragansett Indian Tribe (NIT)**  
**Johnson-O'Malley (JOM)**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of The Narragansett Indian Tribe Johnson-O'Malley Program is to help ignite curiosity and enrich the lives of Tribal children ages three(3) years to twelveth (12) grade. We achieve this by providing opportunities which focus on education, family engagement, community socialization and Tribal culture.

**VISION STATEMENT**

The vision of The Narragansett Indian Tribe Johnson-O'Malley program is to foster a generation of children who display confidence as individuals as well as Tribal members. These children will become adults who are well rounded and able to combine Tribal culture with societal norms.

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### **JOM Meetings**

Jom monthly meetings were previously conducted in person, on the second (2nd) Monday of the month, at the North Wind building of the Four Winds Community Center. However, as a consequence of the Covid pandemic, beginning in January of 2023 JOM meetings were conducted via virtual zoom. The September 2023 Community meeting was held in person. At that meeting, the new JOM Committee members were sworn in, and the JOM parent body voted that going forward, the community meetings would be conducted via virtual Zoom until the parent body votes to resume in-person meetings.

### **Roberts Rules of Order pertaining to JOM meetings**

Since JOM meetings are currently virtual, it is imperative that the committee has the correct list of all people in attendance. To accomplish this, everyone in attendance will be required to have their name visible on the screen and/or to answer when they are called upon to identify themselves. If an individual fails to VERBALLY identify themselves, they will be removed from the virtual meeting.

JOM Zoom meeting links are emailed to those individuals who have signed up via the provided email address, by the cutoff date, and are not to be shared with anyone else.

Grandparents with an ELIGIBLE grandchild are able to attend JOM activities when accompanied by the parent of their grandchild (unless they are their legal guardian). However, due to previous circumstances, regardless if the meeting is in person or virtual, grandparents can not attend JOM monthly meetings unless they are the legal guardians of said tribal grandchildren.

### **JOM Program Approved Policies By The Parent Body**

A copy of JOM Program policies, which have been approved by the parent body, are attached to each emailed JOM monthly meeting agenda. They are also attached to this Annual Report. These policies should be thoroughly evaluated by each JOM community member. It is the responsibility of each parent to ask questions regarding anything that requires clarification.

### **No Show Policy**

The JOM activity no show policy will be strictly enforced going forward. Those parents who sign up their families are responsible for financial reimbursement in whole or in part to the program for those who do not show and/or cancel prior to the deadline date. The financial reimbursement will include the total cost for each individual's participation which may include but is not limited to any meals, transportation, and tickets to events. If the family does not reimburse the program they will not be allowed to participate in future events until the matter is resolved.

### Participation Eligibility

Parents who reach “regular status” and attend at least 50% of JOM community meetings per academic year are eligible to participate in JOM events.

### **New JOM community Chat**

In January of 2024 a new JOM community chat will be created for those members of the parent body who are eligible due to reaching “regular status” and being invested and involved in the program.

### Invested and involved

Invested and involved, as pertaining to the NIT JOM Program, means that at the very least, an individual maintains JOM participation eligibility requirements (as listed above).

### Regular Status

Regulars, as pertaining to the NIT JOM Program, are defined as those members who have been to three (3) consecutive meetings. Regulars will lose their status if they miss two (2) consecutive meetings. Any canceled meetings by the JOM committee will not be held against “regulars” but will not be counted for those looking to gain “regular status”.

### JOM Community Chat Members

JOM Committee members are the only people who are permitted to add an individual to the JOM Community Chat. If a JOM community member adds someone to the chat, that individual will be removed as well as the individual they added. This holds the same for any JOM community member who shares JOM information and zoom links. Doing so is a direct violation of JOM policies and will not be tolerated.

### **Locating JOM Community Information**

All JOM monthly meeting agendas are posted on the official NIT website 2 weeks in advance. To locate them on the website, click on the JOM tab.

JOM will continue to advertise on the website since the reach is broader. However, beginning in January 2024, monthly mailings will be mailed to all ELIGIBLE JOM families (those with children ages 3 to 12th grade who are enrolled Tribal members).

Website [Narragansettindiannation.org](http://Narragansettindiannation.org)

### **2023 JOM Swearing-in Ceremony by Chief Sachem Anthony Dean Stanton**

On September 4, 2023 Chief Sachem Anthony Dean Stanton swore in the newly appointed committee members of the Johnson O'Malley program. They are as follows:

President - Ray Lamphere, Vice-President - Coty Spears Fulton, Treasurer - Heather Perry, Secretary - Janee Robinson, Correspondence Secretary - Jennifer Robinson.

### **2024 JOM Committee Election**

The next JOM committee election will be held on June 10th, 2024 at 6:30PM/EST.

A notice of the election will be prepared and sent out via email and/or mailing.

On the day of the election, an official sign-in sheet will be available, as well as ballots, and nomination forms.

The final verification of the election count will be prepared by the NIT Education Department.

The existing JOM committee has no involvement in the election process as it would be a GROSS CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

An update on positions and responsibilities will be given at the opening of the election.

These are one year terms due to the fact that a child could age UP or age OUT of the program in that year i.e. 2024.

### **Financial Overview**

In 2023, The Johnson O'Malley Program once again offered numerous activities including cultural classes/events. Many families relayed their satisfaction with these classes/events.

#### Cultural classes

Cultural classes were led by Thawn Harris. JOM families were taught and participated in numerous Cultural dances as well as Tribal songs and language. They were also entertained through colorful and interactive storytelling.

#### Seed Starting Workshop

A seed starting workshop was organized by Coty Spears-Fulton and led by Dawn and Cassius Spears who have been long time food producers, cultural educators and tribal food sovereignty advocates. The aim of this workshop was to highlight the cultural importance of food sovereignty. Cassius Spears Jr., First Councilman and State Resource Conservationist, also provided instruction on the importance of soil health. Participants were able to select and plant their seeds before taking them home.

#### Running Class

Running/walking Classes were proposed and led by James Fulton with the goal to engage tribal youth and parents/guardians in exercise to promote physical health and wellness within families. These classes provided demonstrations of helpful stretching techniques as well as eating and hydration tips, prior to embarking on a group run/walk on the Narragansett Tribal grounds.

#### Honoring Our Youth Ceremony

The Honoring Our Youth Ceremony was the last event conducted by the outgoing JOM Committee members. The Ceremony was held at Lake Compounce Amusement & Water Park in Bristol, Connecticut.

Bus transportation, park tickets, and lunch was provided by NIT JOM. Although this event was enjoyed by many families, there was a major financial deficit to the JOM program due to the amount of families who signed up compared to those that actually attended.

#### Halloween Safety Event

The Halloween safety event was held on October 28, 2023 (which was the rain date) on the Church Grounds. JOM families participated in numerous activities such as pumpkin carving, Trunk or Treat, bounce houses, a spooky trail, scary stories, a carriage ride, as well as a petting zoo. Numerous Tribal members stepped up to give their assistance making this event an even greater success.

#### Nikommo

The Narragansett Indian Tribe Annual Holiday Nikommo event/gathering was held on December 16, 2023 at the North Wind building of the Four Winds Community Center. The North Wind building was the site for storytelling, gingerbread Wetu making, ornament coloring, socializing, and eating. Each child in attendance received a stocking filled with an apple, orange, candy cane and a walmart gift card..

Outside The North Wind building there was a horse drawn carriage ride pulled by beautiful Clydesdales. There was also smores and storytelling by the fire.

#### **Upcoming Events** - For Qualifying JOM Families.

February/Winter vacation

April Vacation

Camperships

#### **Upcoming Activities**

Honoring Our Youth Ceremony 2024

## THE JOHNSON O'MALLEY PROGRAM APPROVED POLICIES BY THE PARENT BODY

1. Regular Status: Regulars are defined as those members who have been to three (3) consecutive meetings. Regulars will lose their status if they miss two consecutive meetings. Any canceled meetings by the JOM Committee will not be held against "regulars" but will not be counted for those looking to gain "regular status."
2. Summer Camperships: This item is voted on annually but past policy has been to give summer camperships to only those members defined as regulars.
3. Johnson O'Malley Parent Education Community Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 PM, at the Four Winds Community Center (North Building). If a holiday or cancellation occurs on the second Monday of any given month said meeting will be held on the following Monday.
4. No shows: Those parents who sign up their family are responsible for financial reimbursement in whole or in part to the program for those who do not show and/or **cancel** prior to the deadline date. The financial reimbursement will include the total cost for each individual's participation which may include but is not limited to any meals, transportation, and tickets to events. If the family does not reimburse the program they will not be allowed to participate in future events until the matter is resolved.
5. Parents/Legal Guardians must sign up their own children for any JOM sponsored event. Other relatives/participants **will not** be allowed to sign up other JOM eligible children.
6. Dues: Dues will be collected by each family in attendance at a rate of \$2.00 per family.
7. All JOM deadlines are firm (no exceptions).
8. Narragansett Indian Tribal families will be given first priority in signing up and attending any and all events sponsored by the Narragansett Indian Tribe's JOM program. Other federally recognized Tribal members will be allowed to participate in the Narragansett Indian Tribe's JOM sponsored events providing there is space remaining.
9. Parents must attend at least 50% of the JOM community meetings per academic year to be eligible to participate in all of the JOM events.