Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation
(NOON) is a grassroots organization of Central New Yorkers which recognizes and supports the sovereignty of the traditional government of the Onondaga Nation. 

"Since much of our (Native) history is minimally taught and not accurately, the Witness to Injustice Exercise is a good way to help people learn about these events and share their feelings about what occurred."

-- Freida Jacques, Turtle Clanmother, Onondaga Nation

"The Witness to Injustice Blanket Exercise made me feel a sense of responsibility. I was glad for the closing statement, that this is not an occasion in which we need to feel shame, but instead our common humanity and a sense of rededication to doing the right thing."

-- William Sunderlin, USA participant

Witness to Injustice
The KAIROS Blanket Exercise in the USA

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON)
2013 East Genesee Street, Syracuse NY 13210
(315) 472-5478
noon@peacecouncil.net
The Blanket Exercise

The Witness to Injustice / KAIROS Blanket Exercise™ is a unique 2-3 hour interactive group teaching tool. It uses participatory education to foster truth, understanding, and respect between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in the part of the world now known as the United States; especially in the territory stewarded by people of the Onondaga Nation and other Haundenosaunee peoples.

Experience The History Rarely Taught

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Through the use of meaningful quotes and blankets that represent part of Turtle Island (the Western Hemisphere), we explore this shared history that non-native people rarely learn in school or other settings. The Exercise helps participants deepen their understanding about the European colonization of Turtle Island and the denial of Indigenous peoples’ nationhood throughout U.S. history up to present time. After the Witness to Injustice Exercise, participants have the opportunity to share with the group what they learned, felt, etc., and, resources are shared by facilitators to help participants continue to learn more.

Creation of the Blanket Exercise

Fifteen years ago, the Aboriginal Rights Coalition in Canada worked with Indigenous elders and teachers to develop an interactive way of learning the history most Canadians are never taught. The Blanket Exercise was the result; it has since been offered thousands of times. Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON) has worked closely with KAIROS Canada and members of the Onondaga Nation to adapt the exercise to teach the experiences of Indigenous Peoples impacted by the United States.

Organize a Workshop

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation are offering trained facilitators to offer this exercise to groups, organizations, schools and churches in Partnership with The KAIROS Blanket Exercise. Due to the sensitive nature of this material, the use of trained facilitators is very important. We ask that a good will offering to support our Native knowledge Keepers and NOON’s work be given. This will be worked out with each organization who requests a presentation...

Please contact NOON member, Cindy Squillace at 315-415-5508 to schedule a workshop or for more information.