



TRAPROCK CENTER FOR PEACE & JUSTICE

<https://traprock.org>

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Traprock's 2019 report, with hope for support in 2020

At a time of historic challenges and resistance, the Traprock Center had a year full of activity. We enter the new decade working for urgently needed change, grateful for youth demanding a livable future, and looking forward to your trust and support in 2020.

Since 1978, Traprock has been a community-based organization for peace and justice. A volunteer board led by Director Pat Hynes focuses on **education, support** and **mobilization** for peace and justice. Projects are presented on a newly designed website (traprock.org) featuring a monthly calendar of social justice events. Our email listserv reaches hundreds. Here is a brief presentation of Traprock's recent work.

EDUCATION The **Children's Books Collaborative** offers books and related programs on social justice, peace and environment. After partnering with children's libraries in Greenfield (2016), Orange (2017) and Montague (2018), in 2019 we reached across the Atlantic to West Africa. Pat Hynes' participation in a peace conference in Ghana led to a feminist peace group in Sierra Leone receiving our 2019 award of \$1,000. for books on peace and justice themes, now in the curriculum of two schools. In 2020 we look forward to working with Arise for Social Justice in Springfield and the Springfield Public Library.

Journey Camp, led by board member Sarah Pirtle, had a successful 26th year. The peacebuilding camp offers a summer educational experience in a supportive and empowering community. Sunseed Boys Session and Moonseed Leadership Camp for girls reached youth on peace, social justice and gender equality issues.

The **Wally and Juanita Nelson Scholarship and Traprock Student Fellowship** are awarded annually to Greenfield Community College (GCC) students doing exemplary work on behalf of peace, social or environmental justice. GCC faculty and Traprock board member Josh Becker supervises this project.

Common Threads: The latest in the Common Threads dialogue booklet series, **PASSING THE POWER ON: Dialogue to Connect Ages and Change Ageism** can be downloaded free from the website. It gives insights from the January 2018 Traprock conference on ageism in progressive communities co-led by Sarah Pirtle and Larkin Christie of Youth Rise Together.

The Pen is Mightier than the Sword: Our writings on war, militarism and nuclear weapons; climate crisis and energy; and gender and racial justice issues are published locally and on national news sites carried worldwide. All are presented on our website.

SUPPORT The Young Peacemakers Program: Partnering with the Interfaith Council of Franklin County, Traprock honors area young people dedicated to peace and justice in their schools and communities with the annual Peacemakers Award in May.

Our email **Listserv** reaches some 500 people and groups weekly, sharing programs and actions of interest. This service supports and increases area groups' outreach and mobilization. Events are also listed on our web calendar.

Organizational voices count: Traprock supports key legislation on peace, justice and climate health. In 2019, members worked for bills against nuclear weapons and for changing the MA state seal. A registered non-profit organization, **Traprock supports key projects and groups** with their fundraising. And we continue to support our **10,000 Trees in Vietnam** project, reforesting areas still suffering from US wartime bombing.

MOBILIZATION Traprock board members and friends work for nuclear weapons disarmament through a ban on nuclear materials and other actions. We are part of local networks for climate action and peace with justice in Latin America and the Middle East. On August 6, 2019, we commemorated the 74th anniversary of the US atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In 2020 we will build for peace around the 75th anniversary.



WLOE 2020: MARCH 28, 2020

On Saturday, March 28, 2020, Traprock will mark the 40th anniversary of *Women and Life on Earth: a conference on eco-feminism in the 1980's* with a 9 am – 2:00 pm meeting in the Greenfield Community College Dining Commons

The Women and Life on Earth conference held at the spring equinox of March 1980 brought together 600 women from the northeastern U.S. for a weekend on connections around women, peace and ecology. Now, at a critical time for life on earth, we will gather to honor and encourage multigenerational action. The event will bring together activists and groups from Springfield, MA to Brattleboro, VT, to share goals and plans for 2020 and beyond. For more information and registration contact: info@wloe.org (*The WLOE Internet Project founded in 1999 has been part of Traprock since 2016.*)

Logo above: Women in the phases of the moon, by Bonnie Acker for WLOE, 1980

Your (tax-exempt) donations help continue and expand this work.

Online at traprock.org/donate/. Checks are welcome at: Traprock Center for Peace & Justice, PO Box 1201, Greenfield, MA 01302.

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