Dr. Jahti Jackson-Maasai, ND was born and raised in New York City during the civil disobedience, urban unrest and later heroin plague of the 50’s and 60’s. Dr. Maasai learned early in life the damage that stress and toxins do to the bodies and the psyche of oppressed people. Dr. Maasai began his career in the fields of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Substance Abuse Intervention and helped shape drug prevention programs in the NYC Public Schools System.

After relocating to Atlanta in 1989, Dr. Maasai co-founded one of the first Rites of Passage programs in Atlanta. Based primarily in the so-called inner city neighborhoods in Atlanta, Dr. Maasai focused on youth development and community organizing. From this work came the realization that you can’t change communities until you heal the people living in them.

Spirit led Dr. Maasai to the Ahimki Center for Wholeness founded by Dr. Mark Armstrong, it was at Ahimki that Dr. Maasai immersed himself in the Naturopathy Doctorate Program and embraced the concept of “Healing the Planet One Person at a Time.”

Dr. Maasai co-created Man UP which is a manhood development program in the inner-city communities of Atlanta. Through Man UP Dr. Maasai trained and lectured widely on the healing of men of Afrikan descent, redirecting the “Warrior Spirit” to serve family and community.

A committed community organizer and photographer Dr. Maasai will be memorialized by the Atlanta community on Friday, February 15, 2008 at the Dunbar Center 477 Windsor St SW Atlanta, GA 30312 (404) 658-6545