



**RESOLUTION # 17-04-11  
NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA  
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD**



**RESOLUTION # 328-07-17  
CALIFORNIA RURAL INDIAN  
HEALTH BOARD**

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
In Support of Hepatitis C Elimination**

- WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents 43 Federally-recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho and is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people in the Northwest; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, the California Rural Indian Health Board, Inc. (CRIHB), founded in 1969 for the purpose of bringing back health services to Indians of California, is a tribal organization in accordance with P.L. 93-638 and is a statewide tribal health organization representing 31 Federally recognized tribes in 21 counties through its membership of 12 Tribal Health Programs throughout California's Indian Country; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB and CRIHB are dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, the primary goal of the NPAIHB and CRIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member tribes; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, AI/ANs are disproportionately affected by hepatitis C virus and have both the highest rate of acute HCV infection and the highest HCV-related mortality rate of any US racial/ethnic group; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, the AI/AN HCV-related mortality rate in CA, ID, OR and WA is over three times that of non-Hispanic whites and this disparity has persisted over time, demonstrating the need for enhanced and expanded HCV screening, prevention, testing and linkage to care services; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, medical options for individuals with HCV have vastly improved and new medications have high rates of achieving sustained virologic response; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB and CRIHB seek to build capacity among primary care clinics through an innovative guided practice model-ECHO and obtain affordable HCV treatment, and ensure the availability of necessary supportive services for all AI/ANs living with HCV infection; **AND**
- WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB and CRIHB also seek to enhance HCV surveillance among member tribes, set and track HCV elimination targets and make this information available to tribes and clinics; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the goals of this initiative are consistent with the goals and objectives of both the NPAIHB and CRIHB.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the NPAIHB and CRIHB endorse and support this initiative to eliminate HCV among AI/ANs living in California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, by:

- Enhancing HCV prevention, testing and linkage to care services for people who inject drugs, people who are incarcerated, men who have sex with men, and other populations disproportionately impacted by HCV infection;
- Expanding HCV screening to identify people living with HCV who are unaware of their status and link them to care;
- Providing access to HCV treatment without restrictions, and ensure the availability of necessary supportive services for all American Indian and Alaska Native people living with HCV infection;
- Enhancing HCV surveillance, set and track HCV elimination targets; and
- Enhancing commitment of tribal and elected officials, public health professionals, HCV experts, and partners to provide leadership and to develop a plan to eliminate HCV alongside community members living with and affected by HCV.

### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing joint resolution was adopted at a duly called regular joint meeting of the Board of Directors of Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and California Rural Indian Health Board (**NPAIHB** vote 26 For and 0 Against and 0 Abstain; **CRIHB** vote 17 For and 0 Against and 0 Abstain) held this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July 2017 in Canyonville, Oregon and shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded.

**NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA  
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD**  
2121 SW Broadway, Suite 300  
Portland, OR 97201  
(503) 228-4185

*Andrew C. Joseph Jr.*

Chairperson of the Board

*Joe Fish*

Attest

**CALIFORNIA RURAL  
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD**  
4400 Auburn Blvd, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95841  
(916) 929-9761

*Lisa Elgin*

Chairperson of the Board

*Mark C. ...*

Attest