



**NORTHWEST
PORTLAND
AREA
INDIAN
HEALTH
BOARD**

Burns-Paiute Tribe
Chehalis Tribe
Coeur d' Alene Tribe
Confederated Tribes of Colville
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower
Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Confederated Tribes of Umatilla
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Coquille Tribe
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Hoh Tribe
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Kalispel Tribe
Klamath Tribe
Kootenai Tribe
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Lummi Nation
Makah Tribe
Muckleshoot Tribe
Nez Perce Tribe
Nisqually Tribe
Nooksack Tribe
NW Band of Shoshone Nation
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Puyallup Tribe
Quileute Tribe
Quinault Indian Nation
Samish Indian Nation
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
Shoalwater Bay Tribe
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Skokomish Tribe
Snoqualmie Tribe
Spokane Tribe
Squaxin Island Tribe
Stillaguamish Tribe
Suquamish Tribe
Swinomish Tribe
Tulalip Tribe
Upper Skagit Tribe
Yakama Indian Nation

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Resolution # 17-01-02
**Support of Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) National
Expansion**

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (hereinafter "NPAIHB" or the "Board") was established in 1972 to assist Tribal governments to improve the health status and quality of life of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is a "Tribal organization" as defined by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638 seq. et al) that represents forty-three federally recognized Tribes in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the definitions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act at 25 USCS § 450b, a Tribal organization is recognized as a governing body of any Indian Tribe and includes any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people and its member Tribes; and

WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) have very limited access to health care services and are disproportionately affected by oral and behavioral health disparities and these disparities are directly attributed to the lack of health professionals in Indian communities, which has caused a serious access issue and backlog of many health services for Indian people; and

WHEREAS, many of our member Tribes have great difficulty and face significant challenges in recruiting health professionals to work in their communities that results in further challenges in ensuring continuity and comprehensive health care for Indian people; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) has been in existence since 1964 as a program of the Indian Health Service; and

WHEREAS, the federally authorized Community Health Aide Program Certification Board (CHAPCB) was established and charged with formalizing the process for maintaining the Community Health Aide/Practitioner training and practice standards and procedures; and

WHEREAS, CHAP has been an effective method for diminishing the health disparities of Alaska Natives by promoting access to health services for Alaska Natives residing in rural and remote communities; and

WHEREAS, CHAP grows providers from within Tribal communities who provide patient-centered quality care that comes from providers that understand the history, culture and language of their patients; and

WHEREAS, CHAP provides patient-centered primary care and delivers more care in the community rather than an acute care setting; and

WHEREAS, CHAP provides routine, preventative and emergent health care through Community Health Aides (CHA/Ps), Behavioral Health Aides (BHA/Ps), and Dental Health Aide Providers (DHA/Ts); and

WHEREAS, CHAP providers provide continuity of care in communities that face recruitment and retention challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Health Service issued a Dear Tribal Leader Letter and draft policy statement on June 1, 2016 to solicit input from Tribes on their interest in expanding the existing CHAP and the creation of a national certification board for CHAs in the IHS system; and

WHEREAS, our member Tribes would benefit from expansion of the CHAP to the Portland Area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board does hereby support expansion of the Community Health Aide Program nationally and in the Portland Area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board supports the development of regional certification boards with federal baseline standards for consistency of services provided by any CHAP program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board supports the establishment of a full CHAP pilot project in the Portland Area.

CERTIFICATION

NO. 17-01-02

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 25 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on October 20, 2016.

Andrew C. Joseph Jr.

Chairman

October 20, 2016

Date

Gregory J. Abrahamson

Secretary