



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
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USET Resolution No. 2011:049

**SUPPORT THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION**

- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) was established by Congress in 1992 to carry out grant programs and contracts that support state and community efforts to expand and enhance prevention and early intervention programs and to improve the quality, availability, and range of substance abuse treatment, mental health, and recovery support services; and
- WHEREAS,** SAMHSA administers a combination of competitive, formula, and block grant programs and data collection activities that are carried out through the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP); the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), and the Office of Applied Studies (OAS); and
- WHEREAS,** many of SAMHSA's services and grant opportunities benefit American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people; and
- WHEREAS,** alcohol and substance abuse continues to rise at epidemic rates in AI/AN communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the percentage of AI/AN adults who needed treatment for an alcohol or illicit drug use problem in the past year was higher than the national average for general United States population (adults) at a rate of 18.0 vs. 9.6 percent; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Governments have made significant strides in combating the alcohol and substance abuse rates with funding from SAMHSA, but recognize that more work is needed; and
- WHEREAS,** the reauthorization of SAMHSA is pending in the 112th Congress and is essential to the continued improvement of the health status of AI/AN people to the highest possible level; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors calls upon the United States Congress to support and encourage passage of the reauthorization of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Marksville, LA, Thursday, May 19, 2011.

Brian Patterson, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

Brenda Lintinger, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.