



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET Resolution No. 2013:040

ESTABLISHMENT OF A USET WORKGROUP ON VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE WOMEN

- 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 is comprised of delegates from the member Tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** Native women suffer from violent crime at a rate three-and-a-half times greater than the national average, and nearly 40% of all Native women will experience domestic violence; one in three Native women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime, and 17% of Native women are stalked each year, twice the percentage of other populations; and
- WHEREAS,** USET has established itself as a national leader on the issue of violence against Native women through active participation in Congressional education and awareness; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a need for ongoing monitoring, coordination and proactive response to federal and state legislation that impacts the safety of Native women in the areas of advocacy, justice and funding; and
- WHEREAS,** a comprehensive approach would be best developed by a USET workgroup that is comprised of representatives of USET Tribes' domestic and sexual violence programs and shelters, with a focus on providing advocacy, crisis intervention and support services to victims of domestic, sexual and dating violence, stalking, and sex trafficking; and
- WHEREAS,** in December 2010 the United States recognized the rights of its First Peoples through its support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), whose provisions and principles support and promote the purposes of this resolution; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors hereby charges the USET Social Services and Tribal Justice Committees to establish a workgroup on violence against Native women, whose purpose is to monitor policy, identify best practices, provide technical assistance, and provide public education and awareness to USET Tribes on issues concerning domestic, sexual and dating violence, stalking and sex trafficking; and, be it further

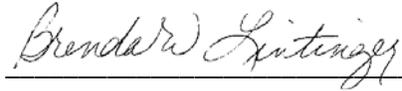
RESOLVED that this workgroup will be tasked with coordinating member Tribes for issue driven government-to-government consultations, identifying federal funding reauthorization opportunities, making recommendations to the USET Board of Directors on issue specific initiatives.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Niagara Falls, NY, on Friday, May 17, 2013.



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



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

“Because there is strength in Unity”