



United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

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USET SPF Resolution No. 2016:017

TO ADVOCATE FOR BETTER FUNDING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

- WHEREAS,** USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-six (26) federally recognized Tribal Nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET SPF Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member Tribal Nation, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member Tribal Nation's leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** unaddressed health issues may lead to negative outcomes; and
- WHEREAS,** insufficient mental health care has led to a drastic rise in suicide rates in Indian country; and
- WHEREAS,** mental, emotional, physical and drug abuse have caused dropout rates in Native youth to have risen to higher levels; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal Nations do not have the funds and resources necessary to rehabilitate Tribal citizens and provide drug tests for Tribal workers, leaders and officials; and
- WHEREAS,** Native youth are more likely to inherit diseases and mental health issues as well as to turn to drugs and alcohol as a way to cope with generations of abuse in our culture; and
- WHEREAS,** health issues and drug abuse affect every Tribal Nation socially, economically and culturally; and
- WHEREAS,** USET SPF has the capability to affect decisions of federal and state governments; and
- WHEREAS,** USET SPF understands how Tribal Nation governments work and has the experience necessary to implement a solution; and
- WHEREAS,** USET SPF can appeal to the Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Congress to implement proper health care and drug abuse prevention; and
- WHEREAS,** high school students from USET SPF member Tribal Nations participate in the Close-Up Tribal Youth Summit, which is held concurrently with USET SPF Impact Week, and provides an opportunity for students to think critically about issues of importance to their Tribal Nations; 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;

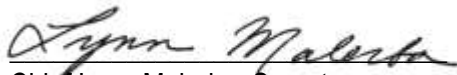
- RESOLVED** USET SPF member Tribal Nation students participating in the 2016 Close-Up Tribal Youth Summit support better funding for health care facilities; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET SPF will provide statistics regarding mental health issues on reservations and education on the benefits of holistic health, and traditional medicines to the Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Congress; and, be it finally
- RESOLVED** in order to address poor quality of health, USET SPF will advocate for increased funding for the Indian Health Service, including funding for traditional medicine.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET SPF Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, February 11, 2016.



Brian Patterson, President
USET Sovereignty Protection Fund



Chief Lynn Malerba, Secretary
USET Sovereignty Protection Fund

“Because there is strength in Unity”