



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2004:079

SUPPORT FOR A YOUTH CONFERENCE TO ADDRESS ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

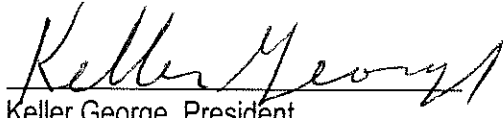
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the future of Indian Country lies in the hands of our American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth and their physical, spiritual, and emotional health is a priority in tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** alcohol and substance abuse among AI/AN youth remains an increasing concern for tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** tribal communities realize a need for prevention of alcohol and substance abuse and promotion of personal responsibility in the physical, spiritual, and emotional health of AI/AN youth; and
- WHEREAS,** three successful conferences addressing alcohol and substance abuse have been held in the Nashville Area and have provided AI/AN youth a valuable learning experience and exposure to other AI/AN cultures and practices; and
- WHEREAS,** one conference does not adequately address the needs of each USET member tribe due to the vast geographic area that the tribes occupy and there is a need for at least two regionalized conferences; and
- WHEREAS,** even though there will be two regionalized conferences the need for the tribes to come together as an Area will still exist, but this type of larger meeting need only be held every third year; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET Tribal Health Program Support (THPS) office should consult with the tribes to be served to identify the dates and location for each regional and/or joint conference; and
- WHEREAS,** funding for these conferences is not recurring within the Indian Health Service (IHS), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), or any other federal agency, thus alternate funding sources will have to be explored on an annual basis; and
- WHEREAS,** the IHS, BIA, other federal agencies, private entities, individual tribal governments and the USET organization should also provide funding for this activity if they have unencumbered resources available; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors supports the continuation of Annual Youth Conferences to provide AI/AN youth with an opportunity to experience alcohol and substance abuse prevention techniques; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that the USET Board of Directors instructs the USET THPS office to explore the possibility of implementing a follow-up and evaluation component for these conferences to assess impact and add efforts to prevent additional health issues facing AI/AN youth.

“Because there is strength in Unity”

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CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Hollywood, FL, on Thursday, June 17, 2004.



Keller George, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



Beverly M. Wright, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.