



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

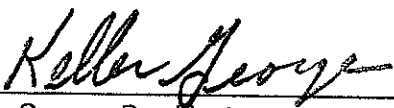
USET Resolution No. 2006:059


SUPPORTING ACCESS TO FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING STREAMS

- 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 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), provides funding to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Tribes/Villages through direct or state allocations, i.e., Title XX Social Services Block Grant, Title IV-E Foster Care with Adoption Assistance, Title IV-B Child Welfare Services, Title IV-B Promoting Safe and Stable Families, Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act grants, and Mental Health Substance Abuse Block Grant; and
- WHEREAS,** due to receipt of inadequate information USET Tribes have experienced limited access to resources necessary for stable, and appropriate services to eliminate risks and provide preventive and direct services within Tribal communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the HHS Tribal Consultation Policy mandates all HHS Divisions, such as the ACF, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Children's Bureau, to consult with Tribes on social service issues specific to AI/ANs, and to make funding available to Tribes to establish more child-friendly, family-focused, and community-based programs that are culturally specific; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribes need additional training, technical support, and funding to strengthen families and ensure permanency for AI/AN children; as well as access to comprehensive services to promote the safety and well-being of AI/AN children and families; and
- WHEREAS,** the HHS recently conducted a study that identified a need to increase Tribal consultation with sufficient representation from Social Services Departments; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors support the following recommendations to HHS:
1. Support a closer relationship between Tribes and HHS;
 2. Increase Tribal consultation between Tribal Social Services Departments and HHS representatives; and
 3. Promote a joint forum for sharing information regarding specific federal funding sources to Tribes with opportunity for dialogue on increased access to those funding sources.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Verona, NY, on Thursday, June 8, 2006.


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


Eddie L. Tullis, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"