United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



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USET Resolution No. 2015:032

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES TO DEVELOP AND SUBMIT A GRANT PROPOSAL ON BEHALF OF THOSE MEMBER TRIBES THAT ELECT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM FOR INDIANS CONSOLIDATED GRANT APPLICATION

- 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 United States (U.S.) Government and each federally recognized Indian Tribe has a government-to-government relationship grounded in numerous historical, political, legal, moral, and ethical considerations that promised healthcare in exchange for the ceding of land; and
- **WHEREAS,** American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) peoples carry the heaviest burden of diabetes in the U.S., suffering from the highest rates of diabetes in the world; and
- WHEREAS, the Indian Tribes within the Indian Health Service (IHS) Nashville Area have some of the highest diabetes prevalence rates in the country at a level of 21% as compared with the general U.S. population at 9.3%; and
- WHEREAS, diabetes is one of the leading causes of death for AI/AN people, with a mortality rate that's four times higher than the U.S. general population; and
- WHEREAS, in an attempt to address the high rates of diabetes within Tribal communities, Congress, in 1997, authorized the IHS to develop and implement the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI); and
- WHEREAS, since 1997, Congress has reauthorized the SDPI a number of times and increased funding throughout the years to the \$150 million per year that the IHS receives today; and
- **WHEREAS,** the SDPI has been very successful and results from the program offer hope for prevention since there is still no cure for diabetes; and
- WHEREAS, as a directive from member Tribes, USET has been the primary applicant of the SDPI funds on behalf of its member Tribes, in an effort to competitively compete with some of the larger Tribes within Indian Country; and
- **WHEREAS,** a new competitive funding cycle is set to commence in 2015 in accordance with IHS Division of Grants Office policies; 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 supports and authorizes the USET Tribal Health Program Support Department to develop and submit a grant proposal on behalf of those member Tribes that elect to participate in the Special Diabetes Program for Indians consolidated grant application.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Mashantucket, CT, May 20, 2015.

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

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

"Because there is strength in Unity"