



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

USET Resolution No. 2002:091

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE SMALL AMBULATORY GRANT PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

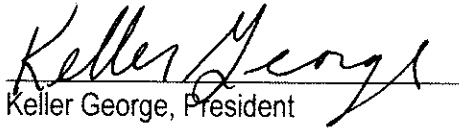
- WHEREAS,** United South and Eastern Tribes Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-four (24) federally recognized tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** the actions taken by the USET Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors comprises delegates from the member tribes' leadership; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET tribes served by the Nashville Area Office (NAO) of the Indian Health Service (IHS) operate their health care delivery systems via contract or compact, with the exception of one direct service facility; and
- WHEREAS,** the USET tribes have high priority for facilities construction, but are not listed on the IHS Facilities Construction Priorities list, which tends to favor direct service facilities; and
- WHEREAS,** the Small Ambulatory Program (SAP) is one of few alternative funding sources for tribes that have a need to build a new facility or expand an existing facility for provision of quality health care services to their tribal members; and
- WHEREAS,** historically not one USET tribe has ever received new facility construction funding from the SAP grant program nor any other IHS appropriated resources for new facility construction even though strong proposals have been written and submitted with technical assistance from NAO Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEH&E) staff; and
- WHEREAS,** during the FY 2002 budget cycle eight USET tribes submitted SAP proposals but none were selected for funding giving the impression that the SAP tends to favor larger tribes west of the Mississippi; and
- WHEREAS,** the IHS has not been forthcoming regarding the reasons that none of the USET tribes were selected for funding, and
- WHEREAS,** the SAP policies and procedures, Request For Proposal (RFP), Objective Review Team (ORT) and selection criteria are ambiguous and the USET tribes require clarification so they may be successful in the next SAP cycle; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors directs the IHS to honor the government-to-government relationship and provide the following information: 1) the policies and procedures that govern the SAP; 2) the selection process for ORT members; 3) the review instructions given to ORT members; 4) the criteria used in the ORT review process; 5) the scoring process applied by the ORT to SAP proposals; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors directs the IHS to send a detailed letter to each USET Tribal applicant explaining the reasons their proposal was not selected for funding, including the score sheets and/or reports pertaining to their individual proposal; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** the USET Board of Directors directs the USET Health Information Officer (HIO) to work with NAO OEH&E staff to develop a position paper regarding the deficiencies and apparent inequities of the SAP as defined by the USET tribes for adoption by the USET Board of Directors with subsequent submittal to the IHS Facilities Appropriation Advisory Board (FAAB); and, be it further


“Because there is strength in Unity”

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors requests that the USET Health Committee select an individual to serve on the SAP ORT and that upon approval by the USET Board of Directors the IHS accept this appointment, without reservation, and allow the Board approved individual to actively participate in the next SAP review cycle.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Semi-Annual Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Nashville, TN, Thursday, June 13, 2002.


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


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