USET Resolution No. 2009:035

AUTHORIZATION FOR UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC. TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM FOR INDIANS GRANT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2010-2011

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an intertribal organization comprised of twenty-five (25) 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, American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people carry the heaviest burden of diabetes in the United States, suffering from the highest rate of diabetes in the world. In some AI/AN communities, the diabetes prevalence rate among adults is as high as 60%; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death for AI/AN people, with a mortality rate of 4.6 times higher than the U.S. general population and the epidemic continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, In an attempt to address the diabetes epidemic in Indian Country, the U.S. Congress appropriated $150M in the 2008 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act; and

WHEREAS, $150M was appropriated to the Indian Health Service (IHS) for continuation of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) that began in 1997; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of the SDPI, the USET organization has applied for and administered the grant on behalf of 22 of the 25 member Tribes; and

WHEREAS, during a regularly scheduled USET Board of Directors meeting held in Nashville, TN, in September of 2008, a motion was passed and carried to allow the USET organization to continue applying for and administering the SDPI grant on behalf of any member Tribes willing to participate; and

WHEREAS, USET is cognizant of the fact that not all Tribes are willing to participate in the USET SDPI grant because they have the desire and capability to apply and administer their own SDPI grants; and

WHEREAS, USET will request official letters of support from Tribal Governments willing to participate in the USET SDPI program as evidence of their willingness to allow USET to apply and administer the SDPI grant on their behalf; therefore, be it

RESOLVED the USET Board of Directors authorizes the USET Executive Director to develop and submit an application for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians on behalf those member Tribes willing to participate as evidenced by official letters of support.

"Because there is strength in Unity"
CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the USET Impact Week Meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Arlington, VA, on Thursday, February 12, 2009.

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

Robert McGhee, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

"Because there is strength in Unity"