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HEALTH  
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**RESOLUTION # 06-01-05**

**Support grant to the NIAAA to address the effects of underage drinking in Northwest Tribal communities.**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents forty-three Federally-recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho on health related issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the primary goal of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is to improve the health and quality of life of its member tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, the consequences of binge drinking include high risk for acute negative physical and social consequences due to alcohol consumption and increased risk for long-term alcohol dependence, derailed academic goals, and vocational trajectories; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol consumption is associated with significant morbidity and mortality in youth with 40% percent of youth 12 to 20 years of age reporting binge drinking in the past 30 days of five or more drinks on at least one occasion; and

**WHEREAS**, while data is lacking on the extent of this problem in American Indian and Alaska Native communities other data do indicate the following:

- Alcohol and substance use is associated with leading causes of death and disability (unintentional injuries, vehicular crashes, suicide, and homicide) in AI/AN youth between the ages of 15-24 (MMWR 2003).
- A national survey among AI/AN high school seniors indicate the highest use of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drug use (Wallace et al, 2002).
- Another study of reservation Indians indicates that almost two-thirds with substance use problems had not received treatment (Herman-Stahl, 2002).
- AI/AN women in nine treatment centers across the nation showed that most of the women had been exposed to alcohol and drugs from early in their childhood and had experienced various forms of abuse and neglect. (Peterson, et al, 2002).

**WHEREAS**, the health care system does is not sufficiently address the issue of underage drinking because screening for alcohol problems among youth is not routine and health care service organizations may not have an accurate estimate of the extent of underage alcohol consumption in the communities they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, Indian health care providers can play an essential role in combating underage drinking in this country and should be included in efforts to overcome barriers for youth in accessing special resources and expertise to overcome issues associated with alcohol use; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) has issued a request for application to assist communities to develop health care capacity to assess the extent of underage drinking in communities by developing skills and intervention research in order to monitor the developmental progression of alcohol use, abuse, and dependence and to eventually design and pilot test interventions.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NIAAA funding application is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Board and support the development of a grant application to develop a project to address the effects of underage drinking in Northwest Tribal communities.

CERTIFICATION

NO. 06-01-05

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 28 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

Dean Caparman-Riley  
Chairman

10/27/2005  
Date

Stella M. Wines  
Secretary