



**NORTHWEST  
PORTLAND  
AREA  
INDIAN  
HEALTH  
BOARD**

Burns-Paiute Tribe  
Chehalis Tribe  
Coeur d' Alene Tribe  
Confederated Tribes of Colville  
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower  
Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians  
Confederated Tribes of Umatilla  
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
Coquille Tribe  
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
Hoh Tribe  
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Kalispel Tribe  
Klamath Tribe  
Kootenai Tribe  
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe  
Lummi Nation  
Makah Tribe  
Muckleshoot Tribe  
Nez Perce Tribe  
Nisqually Tribe  
Nooksack Tribe  
NW Band of Shoshone Nation  
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe  
Puyallup Tribe  
Quileute Tribe  
Quinalt Indian Nation  
Samish Indian Nation  
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe  
Shoalwater Bay Tribe  
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes  
Skokomish Tribe  
Snoqualmie Tribe  
Spokane Tribe  
Squaxin Island Tribe  
Stillaguamish Tribe  
Suquamish Tribe  
Swinomish Tribe  
Tulalip Tribe  
Upper Skagit Tribe  
Yakama Indian Nation

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**Resolution 17-03-03**

**“Office of Minority Health Partnerships to Achieve Health Equity  
Competitive Grant” Improving Data and Enhancing Access-  
Northwest (IDEA-NW)**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (hereinafter “NPAIHB” or the “Board”) was established in 1972 to assist Tribal governments to improve the health status and quality of life of Indian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is a “tribal organization” as defined by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638 seq. et al) that represents forty-three federally recognized tribes in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the definitions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act at 25 USCS § 450b, a tribal organization is recognized as a governing body of any Indian tribe and includes any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; 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 NPAIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, in furtherance of this goal in 1997, NPAIHB established the Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (*EpiCenter*) in an effort to improve the quality of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) epidemiology data; and

**WHEREAS**, The *EpiCenter* continually demonstrates the design and execution of innovative projects to reach, focus and impact the health and quality of life of Northwest tribes and has served as a national model for other Indian Health Service (IHS) areas to emulate in establishing their *EpiCenter* programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 214 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (P.L. 110-148) amends current law to continue authority for operation and funding of Tribal Epidemiology Centers and gives EpiCenters the status as public health authorities for purposes of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, thus granting access to health data needed to perform their mission; and

**WHEREAS**, the Improving Data and Enhancing Access-Northwest (IDEA-NW) project has successfully conducted data linkages with the Northwest Tribal Registry to reduce misclassification of American Indians and Alaska Natives in state cancer registries, vital records, hospital discharge records, and other public health datasets; and

**WHEREAS**, IDEA-NW has utilized linkage-corrected data to provide Northwest Tribes with accurate health data for community health assessment and health improvement projects; and

**WHEREAS**, IDEA-NW is seeking opportunities to improve and expand its data linkage, data analysis, dissemination, and training activities; and

**WHEREAS**, IDEA-NW is seeking opportunities to continue and expand its work with tribal, state, and national partners to improve its record linkage activities; develop new methods to provide Tribes with health data; and provide Tribes with training and mentorship related to collecting, sharing, and interpreting health data ; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health has invited proposals for the funding opportunity “Partnerships to Achieve Health Equity”; and

**WHEREAS**, a successful proposal for this funding would allow IDEA-NW to partner with the Indian Health Service and State Health Departments to improve its data linkage process, develop tools and trainings to support data linkage projects nationwide, and apply data linkages to improve states’ surveillance of health and disease in AI/AN communities; and

**WHEREAS**, a successful proposal would allow IDEA-NW to develop methods (such as a data portal) to more efficiently and securely share health data with Northwest Tribes;

**WHEREAS**, a successful proposal would allow IDEA-NW to develop and provide trainings and mentorship to Northwest Tribes to increase knowledge and use of health data, increase collection of data for community health improvement, and promote data sharing projects that support tribal sovereignty;

**WHEREAS**, the goals of this initiative are consistent with the goals and objectives of both the NPAIHB and the *EpiCenter*.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NPAIHB endorses and supports the staff of the *EpiCenter*, under guidance of the Executive Director, to submit a grant application to the Office of the

Secretary, Office of the Minority Health requesting funding for the initiative entitled *“MP-CPI-001 Partnerships to Achieve Health Equity (“Partnership”)*.

**CERTIFICATION**

NO. 17-03-03

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on March 21, 2017.

*Andrew C. Joseph Jr.*

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Chairman

March 21, 2017

Date

*Gregory J. Abraham*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary