



**Behavioral Health Aid Training and Support Project
RESOLUTION # 21-02-04**

**NORTHWEST
PORTLAND
AREA
INDIAN
HEALTH
BOARD**

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

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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 NPAIHB is a non-governmental “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 (“member tribes”); 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 NPAIHB is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) communities are disproportionately affected by physical health, behavioral health and oral health disparities and inadequate access to health services; and

WHEREAS, the Community Health Aide Program (CHAP), including Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHAT) and Behavioral Health Aides (BHAs) has been in existence in Alaska since 1968 and has proven to significantly improve health outcomes for communities served by these providers; and

WHEREAS, NPAIHB has established a Tribal Community Health Provider Program to bring CHAP providers to the Portland Area and member tribes would benefit from training members of tribal communities to become care providers for their own communities; and

WHEREAS, NPAIHB has a longstanding relationship with Washington Health Authority for BHA education and training; and

WHEREAS, NPAIHB is developing a BHA education program and is seeking funds to support BHA students who have been furloughed in their practicum field placement due to the Covid-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, this specific funding opportunity supports developing the behavioral health workforce for AI/AN people in the Pacific Northwest to deliver high quality, sustainable, culturally relevant behavioral services in AI/AN communities; and

WHEREAS, funding is available through the Tribal Behavioral Health Division of WA Health Care Authority in the amount of a \$100,000 contract; and

WHEREAS, funding will be used to fund two Northwest Elders Knowledge Holders and Culture Keepers trainings in the Spring and Fall; and

WHEREAS, funding will be used to support the salary for a BHA student furloughed during the Covid-19 pandemic, allowing the student to complete required partium hours for certification.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NPAIHB endorses and supports efforts by staff of the Behavioral Health Aid Training and Support Project, under the guidance of the Executive Director, to accept funding from the Tribal Behavioral Health Division of WA Health Care Authority, to support the BHA education program.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board at the January 20, 2021 Quarterly Board Meeting. With a quorum being established.



Nicolaus Lewis, Chairman

ATTEST:



Greg Abrahamson, Secretary