



**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
Confederated Tribes of Umatilla
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Coquille Tribe
Cow Creek Tribe
Cowlitz Tribe
Hoh Tribe
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Kalispel Tribe
Klamath Tribe
Kootenai Tribe
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Lummi Tribe
Makah Tribe
Muckleshoot Tribe
Nez Perce Tribe
Nisqually Tribe
Nooksack Tribe
NW Band of Shoshone Tribe
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Puyallup Tribe
Quileute Tribe
Quinault Tribe
Samish Indian Nation
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
Shoalwater Bay Tribe
Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
Skokomish Tribe
Snoqualmie Tribe
Spokane Tribe
Squaxin Island Tribe
Stillaguamish Tribe
Suquamish Tribe
Swinomish Tribe
Tulalip Tribe
Upper Skagit Tribe
Yakama Nation

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Resolution # 18-01-02

**Support for the Tribal Epidemiology Center (TEC) to Apply with
Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) for NIH Science
Education Partnership Award (SEPA) Funding PAR-17-339**

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 "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 (Portland Area 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, NPAIHB is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of the NPAIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Indian Health Care Improvement Act 25 US Code (18) § 1621m, Epidemiology centers states:

a. "Functions of (Tribal Epidemiology Centers or) TECs: In consultation with and on the request of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations, each Service area epidemiology center established under this section shall, with respect to the applicable Service area—

- make recommendations for the targeting of services needed by the populations served; and
- make recommendations to improve health care delivery systems for Indians and urban Indians;

WHEREAS, there is a lack of AI/AN students entering the health professions as evidenced by 0.7% of medical school admissions being AI/AN students, and an overall decrease of admissions since the 1980s; and

WHEREAS, it is known that a provider–patient concordance in race and ethnicity leads to improved understanding, cultural awareness, and enhanced culturally relevant care; and

WHEREAS, the education of youth in science can positively influence the decision of youth to pursue science and health careers which are of benefit to AI/AN people; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) has a long history of preparing students for medical, nursing, and allied health careers, including *On Track OHSU!*, which is a career-building program for underrepresented minority students, created in 2013 through a directive of OHSU’s Provost. The program builds long-term relationships with partner communities and school-to-job pathways for students, with the goal of increasing the number of underrepresented students in Oregon’s professional health services and sciences sector. In addition to the Woodburn community and the Jefferson cluster in North Portland, *On Track OHSU!* currently serves The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center has a 20-year history of leadership in providing epidemiology services and technical assistance to the Portland Area Tribes, and has a multiple year partnership with Oregon Health & Science University in providing Summer Institute Training and health track of the THRIVE conference, among others; and

WHEREAS, OHSU proposes to partner with the Board to expand *On Track OHSU!* and ensure mutually beneficial support of more AI/AN youth to enter science careers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board supports efforts of staff of the NWTEC in partnership with Oregon Health & Science University, under the direction of the Executive Director, to apply for the NIH SEPA program.

CERTIFICATION

NO. 18-01-02

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 24 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on October 12, 2017.

Andrew C. Joseph Jr.

Chairman

October 12, 2017

Date

Gregory J. Abraham

Secretary