



Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

2008 Winter Conference Yakima, Washington

RESOLUTION #08 - 28

“SUPPORT FOR AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION FOR THE SAMHSA TRIBAL CIRCLES OF CARE GRANT PROGRAM”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians is a regional organization comprised of American Indians in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians; and

WHEREAS, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Circles of Care Tribal Program is the only federal program that allows tribes to develop child specific mental health delivery systems; and

WHEREAS, Circles of Care is the only program under SAMHSA that tribes do not have to compete with states for; and

WHEREAS, the Administration proposed to eliminate the program and funding in their FY 2008 budget, but the Congress restored the funding; and

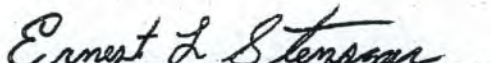
WHEREAS, because the Circles of Care grant program does not have a specific authorization, SAMHSA has the authority to use funds as they deem and there is a fear that the Administration could allocate the funds to some area other than tribes; now

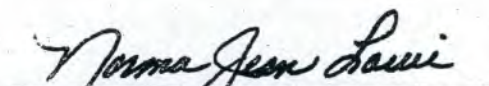
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the ATNI does hereby support the House and the Senate FY 2008 Labor HHS Appropriation bills that would continue funding under the budget category that the Circle of Care Program exist (Programs of National and Regional Significance); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI supports a specific authorization for the Tribal Circles of Care Program in any reauthorization of SAMHSA program and funding.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2008 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Yakima Convention Center, Yakima, Washington on January 25, 2008, with a quorum present.


Ernest L. Stensgar, President


Norma Jean Louie, Secretary