



2011 Mid-Year Conference Worley, Idaho

RESOLUTION #11 - 33

"RECOMMENDATIONS TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IN DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACTION PLAN FOR HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020"

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, Executive Orders, 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 to 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, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes 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 the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, it is broadly understood and been demonstrated through statistical analysis that American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people experience disproportionately higher rates of health disparities than other groups of people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Healthy People Initiative is a science-based ten-year national objective plan for improving the health of all Americans, which has established benchmarks and monitors progress over time in order to encourage collaborations across sectors, guide individuals toward making informed health decisions, and measure the impact of prevention activities; and

WHEREAS, despite the goals of the Healthy People Initiative not much change toward attaining the goals in Healthy People 2000 and 2010 have been realized for AI/AN people even though the general population shows signs of improvement; and

WHEREAS, if the United States is serious about addressing AI/AN health disparities then a focused effort must be developed to evaluate the progress that AI/AN have made toward achieving the Healthy People objectives in 2010 and the findings should be used to develop an action plan for Indian Country toward attaining the goals for Healthy People 2020; and

WHEREAS, the HHS Secretary has established the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC) for the purposes of exchanging views, sharing information and providing advice and recommendations to the HHS Secretary on programs, services and responsibilities of HHS programs; and

WHEREAS, Northwest tribal leaders and health directors support the development of an initiative to evaluate the progress that AI/AN people made toward achieving the Healthy People 2010 objectives using the findings to develop an AI/AN Action Plan to improve their attainment toward meeting the Healthy People 2020 objectives; and

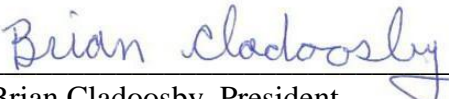
WHEREAS, Northwest tribal leaders and health directors believe this is an appropriate issue for the HHS Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee to address with Secretary Kathleen Sebelius; now

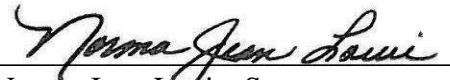
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby recommends that the HHS Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee urge Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to initiate an evaluation assessing AI/AN outcomes toward meeting Healthy People 2010 objectives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby support the findings of this evaluation to be used to develop an AI/AN Action Plan to improve their attainment toward meeting the Healthy People 2020 objectives.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2011 Mid-Year Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Coeur d'Alene Casino and Resort in Worley, Idaho, May 16-19, 2011 with a quorum present.


Brian Cladoosby, President


Norma Jean Louie, Secretary