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INDIAN  
HEALTH  
BOARD**

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Yakama Nation

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**Resolution # 16-01-01**

**Interview Project with People Who Inject Drugs,  
Community and Health Care Staff to Explore  
Community-Driven Education, Prevention and  
Healthcare Systems Improvement**

**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; 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**, 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* has gained national recognition for developing and implementing many useful and innovative projects to improve 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**, the Indian Health Service (IHS) has agreed to support a project supplementing the existing Health and Human Services Minority AIDS Initiative Funds, to determine the knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs around injection drug use, HIV and Hepatitis C in American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities and assess feasibility of integrated interventions for effective use within AI/AN communities; and

**Whereas**, AI/ANs in Idaho, Oregon and Washington are affected by injection drug, HIV and Hepatitis C; and

**Whereas**, a primary aspect of this project will address contextual factors that impact injection drug use, HIV and Hepatitis C acquisition; and

**Whereas**, the goals of this initiative are consistent with the goals and objectives of both the NPAIHB and the *EpiCenter*; and

**Whereas**, a successful project would provide an opportunity for Northwest tribes to promote injection drug education, outreach, prevention, as well as health care and systems interventions.

**Now therefore be it resolved**, that the NPAIHB endorses and supports an effort by staff of the *EpiCenter*, under the guidance of the Executive Director, to the study entitled **"Interview Project with People Who Inject Drugs, Community and Health Care Staff to Explore Community-Driven Education, Prevention and Healthcare Systems Improvement.**

CERTIFICATION

NO. 16-01-01

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 29 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on October 22, 2015.

Andrew C. Joseph Jr.

**Chairman**

10-22-15  
Date

Gregory J. Abraham  
Secretary