



**NORTHWEST  
PORTLAND  
AREA  
INDIAN  
HEALTH  
BOARD**

Burns-Paiute Tribe  
Chehalis Tribe  
Coeur d' Alene Tribe  
Colville Tribe  
Coos, Suislaw &  
Lower Umpqua Tribe  
Coquille Tribe  
Cow Creek Tribe  
Cowlitz Tribe  
Grand Ronde 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  
Quinalt 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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**RESOLUTION # 19-04-14**

**SUPPORT FUNDING FROM NORTH SOUND ACCOUNTABLE  
COMMUNITIES OF HEALTH FOR DHAT EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
CURRICULA**

**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 Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board 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 ("member tribes" or "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**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people and its member Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) have very limited access to health care services and are disproportionately affected by oral health disease and these disparities are directly attributed to the lack of dental health professionals in Indian communities, which has caused a serious access issue and backlog of dental treatment among AI/AN people; and

**WHEREAS**, many of our member Tribes have great difficulty and face significant challenges in recruiting oral health professionals to work in their communities that results in further challenges in ensuring comprehensive dental health care for Tribal members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) has been in existence since 1964 as a program of the Indian Health Service (IHS); and

**WHEREAS**, Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHATs) are one discipline of CHAP which are currently working within the Portland Area Tribes and Urban Tribal Health Facility, Native American Rehabilitation Association; and

**WHEREAS**, seven (7) Portland Area DHATs graduated from the Alaska DHAT Education and Training program on June 14, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, DHATs have proven to be an effective method for diminishing the health disparities of Alaska Natives by promoting access to oral health services for Alaska Natives residing in rural and remote communities; and

**WHEREAS**, DHATs are midlevel providers grown from within Tribal communities who provide patient-centered, culturally relevant, quality care that comes from providers that understand the history, culture and language of their patients; and

**WHEREAS**, DHATs provide patient-centered primary care and delivers more care in the community rather than an acute care setting; and

**WHEREAS**, DHATs provide routine, preventative and emergent health care; and

**WHEREAS**, DHAT providers provide continuity of care in communities that face recruitment and retention challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, Skagit Valley Community College in partnership with Swinomish Health Services have built a DHAT education and training program; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Sound Accountable Communities of Health has offered up funding to assist with the purchase of the Alaska Dental Health Aide Curricula to educate and train DHATs within the Education and Training facility as built and staffed by Skagit Valley Community College and Swinomish Health Services; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Sound Accountable Communities of Health has offered to assist the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board staff to identify and obtain the remaining funding for the purchase of the Alaska Dental Health Aide Curricula to educate and train DHATs.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board supports the education of DHATs within the Portland Area to reduce health disparities for our Tribes; and

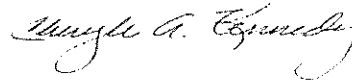
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board supports the receipt of grant funding from North Sound Accountable Communities of Health in the amount of up to \$500,000.00 for the sole purpose of purchasing the Alaska DHAT Education and

Training Curricula, which will become the property of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, for the education of DHATs in the Northwest.

**CERTIFICATION**

**NO: 19-04-14**

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 23 for, 0 against, abstain on July 16, 2019.



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Chairman



\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

July 16, 2019

DATE