

**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council has received a briefing and request from representatives of the Johns Hopkins University Native American Research Centers of Health (NARCH) to support a proposal for establishment within the Fort Apache Reservation of a early intervention program for the prevention of depression in teen mothers on the Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is aware that the overall theme of the NARCH grant is "Family Spirit" under which this proposed intervention program appears to find purpose; and

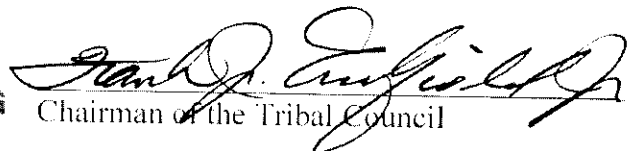
WHEREAS, the Tribal Council appreciates the work and ingenuity which the Johns Hopkins University staff and other local staff have invested in making the NARCH grant and its associated programs beneficial to the people of the Fort Apache Reservation.

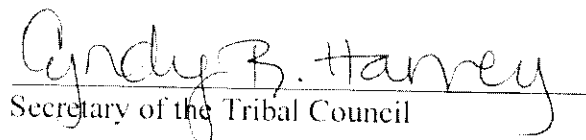
BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby expresses its support for the "Family Spirit" theme of the Native American Research Centers of Health (NARCH) grant and the associated programs identified to the Tribal Council as of this date which fall under the umbrella of service provided through the NARCH grant.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby endorses the issuance of a letter of support for the NARCH grant Family Spirit theme, with such letter signed by the Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman.

The foregoing resolution was on December 5, 2002 duly adopted by a vote of SIX for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (s), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

ACTING


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council



White Mountain Apache Tribe
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

Dallas Massey, Sr., Tribal Chairman

Dr. John Walkup, MD, Principal Investigator
Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health
621 North Washington Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21205

Dear Dr. Walkup:

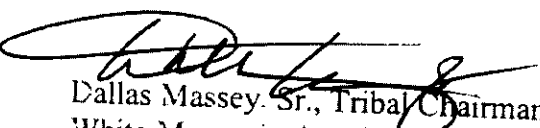
The Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and I recently listened to a presentation made by three Apache tribal members of the Family Spirit Program which is operated by Johns Hopkins University's Center for American Indian Health. We listened with keen interest about how this program of which you are Principal Investigator, has assisted Apache teen mothers, teen fathers, and their infants.

From the Program's beginning in 1996, known then as the Share our Strength program, many teen mothers and their young families have benefited from the counseling and emotional support provided by the staff. They have also benefited from many lessons taught about nutrition, breastfeeding, infant health care, and care for themselves. These have enhanced their outlook regarding themselves, their infants, and their futures.

I'm pleased to know that fathers of infants born to teen mothers have been included in the Program, thus the current name of the program, Family Spirit. Teen fathers share some of the same difficulties as teen mothers, but have difficulties that are unique to them and their role as fathers. Developing and implementing a program that supports and meets the unique needs of individual family members while considering the family as a whole is embodied in the name, Family Spirit.

On behalf of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Tribal Council, I offer my whole hearted support for the Family Spirit Program. I also look forward to the results of the propose study of depression among teen mothers. I appreciate very much the efforts of the staff of this Program which unselfishly strives to improve the outlook of teen-formed families.

Sincerely,


Dallas Massey, Sr., Tribal Chairman
White Mountain Apache Tribe