Resolution No. 05-2021-97



## WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Approving Launch of "Covid Watch" Exposure Notification App on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation)

- WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power, "To represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe..."; and
- WHEREAS, The Tribe has worked in coordination with local and nonlocal partners and organizations to raise the level of health and well-being of all residents of the Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, COVID-19 has become a global burden which has disproportionately affected Native Americans communities, including on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("Reservation") where Tribal members have experienced some of the highest rates of infections of SARS-CoV-2; and
- WHEREAS, Novel technology such as Exposure Notification Application ("Covid Watch"), an app that was produced by WeHealth and Arizona Department of Human Services, when adopted in a population can help reduce the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 among the adopting population, including the possibly WMAT lands; and
- WHEREAS, Adoption of the Covid Watch by other communities has been shown to reduce COVID-19 cases and deaths; and
- WHEREAS, If adopted here, Covid Watch will fit unobtrusively into the Tribe's existing testing, vaccinating, and surveillance processes with privacy-preserving technology to support WMAT efforts; and
- WHEREAS, The Council has reviewed the proposal to launch Covid Watch, and finds that its adoption on the Reservation will help safeguard and promote the health and well-being of the Reservation's residents and is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the launch of the Covid Watch App, in collaboration with WeHealth and the Arizona Department of Human Services, the Tribe's Emergency Operations Center, and the Indian Health Service's Whiteriver Service Unit.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal

Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>MAY 5, 2021</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>NINE</u> for, <u>ZERO</u> against, and <u>ZERO</u> abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

-7-2021

Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman

Date

Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

Date