



Resolution No. 04-2023-88

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Supporting and Recommending Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health Research Entitled: “Indigenous Health Enrichment Through Community Engaged Research and Practice (ENRICH)”)

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”), *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, The Tribe, in conjunction with Johns Hopkins University has conducted research projects on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Reservation”) for more than 40 years with the purpose of raising the level of health of all Reservation residents; and

WHEREAS, The White Mountain Apache Tribe and Johns Hopkins have worked effortlessly to address the health disparities and inequalities among the White Mountain Apache people; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has created severe and widespread impacts further widening health inequalities and disparity gaps from infectious diseases, mental and behavioral health concerns, and intensified negative social determinants of health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, We are requesting approval to submit a grant proposal entitled “*Indigenous Health Enrichment Through Community Engaged Research and Practice (ENRICH)*” to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute in response to the “American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Enrichment Initiative” to promote health equity; and

WHEREAS, the following project activities will include four integrated cores:

- 1) Core 1: Expand research on post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC)—also known as “Long COVID” with the White Mountain Apache Tribe and Navajo Nation
- 2) Core 2: Support the development of tribal community-based research agenda development to address health disparities and inequities exacerbated by COVID
- 3) Core 3: Provide early career mentoring for Indigenous scholars to develop pilot project to address COVID-related health inequities for tribal communities and support community-based Indigenous leaders to participate in the Johns Hopkins graduate-level public health certificate program in American Indian Health to build trust and capacity in public health research
- 4) Core 4: Disseminate culturally tailored health communication materials to promote continued up-to-date ways to mitigate and prevent COVID-19 and develop a clinical trials toolkit to prepare tribal leaders interested in participating in future clinical trials

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of life-saving prevention, public health promotion and disease treatment discoveries;
and

WHEREAS, The Council has reviewed and considered JHCIH's request and finds that applying for the Grant funding to conduct the proposed study activities is essential to better understand of health inequality due to the effects of COVID-19 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 authorizes the Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health to apply for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute grant for *Indigenous Health Enrichment Through Community Engaged Research and Practice (ENRICH)*.

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 Chairman, or in his 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 APRIL 12, 2023 duly adopted by a vote of NINE for, ONE against, and ZERO 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 November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

Kasey Velasquez 4-14-23
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman Date

Vaneysa Johnson 4/14/23
Vaneysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary Date