National Indian Health Board



National Indian Health Board Resolution 18-04

SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORK GROUP (BHWG) TO SUPPORT SAMHSA TRIBAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)

WHEREAS, the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), established in 1972, serves all federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Tribal governments by advocating for the improvement of health, behavioral health and public health services to AI/ANs and for the fulfillment of the Federal government's trust responsibility to AI/AN Tribal governments;

WHEREAS, the NIHB is duly elected to serve the sovereign rights of all Federally recognized Tribal governments, to promote the highest levels of health for AI/AN people, and to advise the Federal government in the development of responsible health care policy; and

WHEREAS, the NIHB By-laws, Article XVI, Section 4, provide that the Board may "create committees and delegate authority to them;"

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NIHB supports the establishment of a Behavioral Health Work Group (BHWG);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BHWG may consider and advise NIHB on behavioral health issues;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BHWG may consider and advise Tribal Leaders appointed to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Tribal Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NIHB will work to ensure the federal government upholds its trust responsibility to advance Tribal Behavioral Health in Indian Country including providing support for Tribal Leaders responsible for advising SAMHSA which may include Agency financial support of the BHWG;

BE IT RESOLVED, that any AI/AN Tribal government or Tribal organization or their representative or their appointed technical advisor can participate in BHWG teleconferences and meetings at their own expense;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any AI/AN Tribal government or Tribal organization can make contributions to the NIHB for a special fund that will specifically support the activities of the BHWG; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that NIHB will take all action possible and practical to support the BHWG, including as funding permits: providing a facilitator for meetings and teleconferences, arranging teleconferences and in-person meetings, providing meeting space, distributing action alerts from the BHWG to Tribal leaders, Tribal organizations, and Tribal representatives as well as their technical advisors, including reports for the BHWG in the NIHB on-going communications with elected AI/AN Tribal officials, and posting information about the TBHTC on the NIHB website.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board, with quorum present, on the 29th day of January, 2018.

Vinton Hawley

NIHB Chairperson

ATTEST:

NIHB Secretary