

**Board of Governors**

Honorable J. Michael Chavarria  
Pueblo of Santa Clara  
Chairman

Honorable Phillip A. Perez  
Pueblo of Nambe

Honorable Richard Mermejo  
Pueblo of Picuris

Honorable Clyde Romero, Sr.  
Taos Pueblo



Gil Vigil  
Executive Director

**Board of Governors**

Honorable Robert Mora  
Pueblo of Tesuque  
Vice-Chairman

Honorable George Rivera  
Pueblo of Pojoaque

Honorable Terry Aguilar  
Pueblo de San Ildefonso

Honorable Marcelino Aguino  
Ohkay Owingeh

**RESOLUTION NO. 14.08.13**

**SUPPORT FOR A DENTAL THERAPIST PROGRAM**

- WHEREAS:** The Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc. ("ENIPC"), is comprised of the Northern New Mexico Pueblos of Taos, Picuris, Ohkay Owingeh, Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, Pojoaque, Nambe and Tesuque; and
- WHEREAS:** The ENIPC Board of Governors is comprised of appointed and elected Tribal Governors from the respective Eight Northern Pueblo Tribes; and
- WHEREAS:** ENIPC is established to provide community-based services in the areas of education, employment and training, behavioral health, domestic violence counseling, senior services, environmental support services, child care providing, commodity distribution, woman and infant services, and administrative support services; and
- WHEREAS:** There is a present unmet need for dental care among our Indian people and part of the problem is the lack of skilled dental labor workforce servicing our Native American patient population on our reservations and in the off-reservations urban areas; and
- WHEREAS:** Our Pueblo Tribes are sovereign nations and have a right to seek healthcare resources to serve the healthcare and dental needs of our Pueblo people; and
- WHEREAS:** New Mexico doesn't have enough dentists. As a result, thousands of New Mexicans cannot get dental care when they need it, where they live. This includes working families and children in rural, tribal and underserved communities, as well as elders and persons with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS:** Thousands of New Mexicans, many of them children, elders, persons with disabilities, and working families do not have access to quality, affordable dental care; and

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*"Promote, facilitate and improve programs to meet the unique needs of Pueblo people....."*

**WHEREAS:** A model Dental Therapist program has been in existence, and has been thoroughly evaluated for safety, quality, and appropriate scope of practice in Alaska with the Alaska Native patient population in collaboration with Indian Health Service and the Alaska Native Tribes and others; and

**WHEREAS:** The Dental Therapist has received high results and accolades from patients, health care professionals and community leaders in the U.S. and in over 50 other countries; and

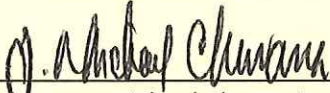
**WHEREAS:** New Mexico has the talents and the means to replicate and sustain this model with existing training institutions and communities that are in need of this program; and

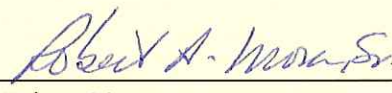
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** that we, the Eight Northern Pueblo Governors endorse and support this program to be fully approved under New Mexico law as early as the 2015 New Mexico legislative session.


**CERTIFICATION**

We hereby certify that **Resolution No.14.08.13** was considered and adopted at the Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc., Board of Governors meeting held on **August 19, 2014** at which a quorum was present. The vote was 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained and 2 absent.

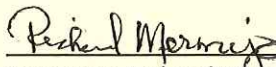
Signed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.


  
Governor J. Michael Chavarria  
Pueblo of Santa Clara, ENIPC Chairman


  
Governor J. Robert Mora  
Pueblo of Tesuque ENIPC, Vice Chairman

  
Governor Phillip A. Perez  
Pueblo of Nambe

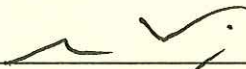
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Governor George Rivera  
Pueblo of Pojoaque

  
Governor Richard Mermejo  
Pueblo of Picuris

  
Governor Terry Aguilar  
Pueblo of San Ildefonso

  
Governor Clyde Romero Sr.  
Pueblo of Taos

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Governor Marcelino Aguino  
Ohkay Owingeh

Attest:   
Gil Vigil, ENIPC Executive Director