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

- WHEREAS, members of the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe are duly elected representatives of the people of their respective districts; and among their many concerns are the health and well-being of its Tribal members; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council supports carefully designed research projects to evaluate health problems which exist in the population and to develop appropriate interventions which seek to decrease or alleviate these problems; and
- WHEREAS, a support program (Share our Strength) for teen mothers began in 1995 and since then has evolved into a home-based family strengthening preventive intervention program (Family Spirit) for teen parents who voluntarily wish to participate, and these programs have operated both on the Apache and Navajo reservation; and
- WHEREAS, this project was developed jointly by the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health and Apache and Navajo tribal members so that all aspects of the program are culturally relevant for each tribe in order to maximize the benefits of the program for teen parents; and
- WHEREAS, Apache and Navajo tribal members serve as Family Health Educators (FHE) for the Family Spirit program after having received over 500 hours of para-professional training in the basics public health, counseling, and in the teaching of teen parents about parenting, infant care, self help, capacity building, and community service, while also seeking to reduce high risk behaviors; and
- WHEREAS, this program is felt to be a success by teen parent participants, their parents, and by support individuals and groups in the community; and
- WHEREAS, although many pregnant teens who enter the program are able to cope well with their pregnancy, others display symptoms of depression and have difficulty coping with it and personal and home situations related to their pregnancy, and depression may be serious for some pregnant teens which can put them at high risk for adverse outcomes to themselves, infants they give birth to, or others including the father of the baby; and
- WHEREAS, a manuscript has been written entitled: "Depressive Symptoms Among Pregnant American Indian Adolescents" by Johns Hopkins personnel which describes and documents the extent of depression among Apache and Navajo pregnant teens, although no identification of either tribe appears anywhere in the manuscript, yet

information contained in the manuscript is important for those on the reservations to know who work with adolescents and who care about their health and welfare and who wish to develop strategies to intervene on this problem; and

WHEREAS, the manuscript is planned to be published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the manuscript "Depressive Symptoms Among Pregnant American Indian Adolescents" written by Johns Hopkins personnel, as well as approves the publication of the manuscript.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>APRIL 16, 2003</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>SIX</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (j), (k), (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).

TRIBAL SERVICES

Chairman of the Tribal Council

Secretary of the Tribal Council