

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

(Approving Grant Proposal and Award Receipt for Special Education for the Child Find Program)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache 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 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA—PL.105-17 Part B and C) authorizes tribes or tribal organizations to receive funds for special education activities for infants and toddlers and preschool age Indian children residing on reservations; and

WHEREAS, to receive funding, each reservation must be served by an elementary and/or secondary school for Indian children operated or funded by the Department of Interior (BIA); and

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe received notification of funding which is authorized by the Federal Government under P.L.105-17, as amended by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C, Section 643 and Part B, Section 611; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Division of Early Childhood Development will continue to work on data collection for Part B and Part C to determine the amount of funds the White Mountain Apache Tribe is eligible to receive; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's Child Find Program requests continued support for needed services available to Children ages 0-5, of various communities of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation in Early Childhood Development, as stated herein; and

WHEREAS, the Child Find Program is administered by the Tribe through a Public Law 93-638 grant and monitored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the staff is primarily Native American and speaks the Apache language; and

WHEREAS, the program collaborates with AzIEP, DDD, ASDB, Whiteriver Unified School District, Head Start, Indian Health, the FACE Program, and BIA Schools; and

WHEREAS, in addition to tribal governance, the overall educational goals, procedures, and budget are overseen by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, consisting of the Contract Specialist, Line Officer and Indian Self Determination Specialist; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Child Find program is four-fold:

- 1) To assist in the EARLY identification of children between zero and five who may have special needs or who may be "at risk" for developmental delays; and
- 2) To contribute to parental understanding of the special services system, parents rights, developmental disorders, and other topics that relate to their child's specific disability; and
- 3) To collaborate with the community and local agencies to promote awareness about special needs resources and services available to children and families; and
- 4) To provide direct services as needed and build on a history of productive collaboration between health and educational agencies, the White Mountain Apache Tribe Child Find

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program will work with State and Federal Agencies that have a shared commitment in advancing the early identification, assessment, and service provision for children living on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

; and

WHEREAS, specific objectives for addressing Child Find's goals include:

- 1. Developmental and vision/hearing screenings for all children between the ages of 0-5 at the Child Find center, or in the home.
- 2. An Annual Door to Door survey it identify the number of children residing on the reservation and those with a possible developmental delay.
- 3. Referrals directed to lead agency or medical agency following screening.
- 4. Tracking and monitoring children who are "at risk" for developmental delays.
- 5. Cooperative assessments with lead agencies.
- 6. Direct therapy when lead agencies cannot provide the service.
- 7. Therapeutic collaboration between Child Find professionals and lead agency professionals.
- 8. Interpretation/translation services for families attending medical or educational appointments.
- 9. Transportation as needed for families attending medical or educational appointments.
- 10. Establish of memorandums of Agreement / Understanding between lead agencies and Child Find to outline specific obligations of each party.
- 11. Family and parent training to educate about special needs policies and rights, and specific disabilities programs. Training will be carried out through weekly technical assistance, monthly meetings, annual conferences and workshops.
- 12. Heighten public awareness about resources and service for children with special needs through radio broadcasts, newsletters, brochures, pamphlets, promotional items, school presentations, interagency meetings, and open house.
- 13. Increase staff knowledge and skills for working with children and families with special needs. Staff may attend one out of state training/conference and two instate training/conference per year. Training must be linked specifically to the zero to five special needs population.
- 14. Annual staff strategic planning meeting to target goals and objectives for upcoming fiscal year.
- 15. Child Find employs or contracts with reputable and qualified individuals to provide services to children and families.

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16. Management, maintenance and review of policies, procedures, and budgetary information on an "on going" and "annual" basis.

WHEREAS, P.L. 105-117 mandates that the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) as amended, be turned over to Indian Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds it in the best interest of the Tribe to approve the request to the BIA for funding to support the Child Find Program and further finds that upon receipt of the award, the Tribe shall accept the awarded funding for the purposes stated herein.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves submission to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Branch of Western Region Division of Acquisition Phoenix Area Office, of the grant proposal described hereto and further authorizes the Tribe to receive the award on behalf of the Child Find Program to be used in accordance with part B and C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall govern.

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

The foregoing resolution was on <u>December 14, 2009</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>NINE</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (i), (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).

Ronnie Lupe, Chairman of the Tribal Council

Cyndy R. Harvey, Secretary of the Tribal Council