



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

## **(Declaring a State of Emergency in Response to Deaths by Suicide)**

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- WHEREAS,** The Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") is entrusted by the Tribe's Constitution to represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribal Council supports the efforts that Johns Hopkins University, Apache Behavioral Health Services, Indian Health Services Whiteriver Service Unit, White Mountain Apache Tribe Division of Health, and the White Mountain Apache Tribal Police Department have made to identify health problems that exist in the community and to develop appropriate interventions which seek to decrease or alleviate these problems; and
- WHEREAS,** Johns Hopkins University, Apache Behavioral Health Services, Indian Health Services Whiteriver Service Unit, White Mountain Apache Tribe Division of Health, and White Mountain Apache Tribal Police Department meet regularly to address the issue of deaths by suicide by Tribal members and suicidal ideations expressed by Tribal members; and
- WHEREAS,** Suicide-related referrals, including deaths by suicide, received by Johns Hopkins University, Apache Behavioral Health Services, Indian Health Services Whiteriver Service Unit, White Mountain Apache Tribe Division of Health, and White Mountain Apache Tribal Police Department have increased; and
- WHEREAS,** Although much has been accomplished to prevent the number of suicidal behaviors among the Apache people, problems associated with self-directed violence and suicidal actions continue to be a growing concern to the Tribal Council and community members; and
- WHEREAS,** Through department collaboration, Apache Behavioral Health Services has worked with Indian Health Services to identify additional resources to support the efforts to reduce the number of deaths by suicide; and
- WHEREAS,** Additional resources to support efforts to reduce the number of deaths by suicide may be available to the White Mountain Apache Tribe, Apache Behavioral Health Services, and Indian Health Services.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby declares a state of emergency exists in response to deaths by suicide.

***Resolution No. 03-2019-55***

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe are requesting from the United States additional support dollars for use within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation to cover additional personnel, prevention and intervention activities, and necessary supplies.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that they hereby request from the State of Arizona additional support dollars for use within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation to cover additional personnel, prevention and intervention activities, and necessary supplies.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, in addition to support dollars, the White Mountain Apache Tribe requests that Indian Health Services, the State of Arizona, and local agencies provide personnel with specialized training in developing, organizing, and facilitating a comprehensive suicide response strategy for stopping the spread of future suicides.

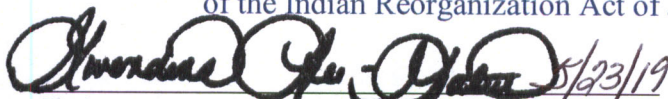
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that for the safety and wellbeing of our tribal members, the White Mountain Apache Tribe and community stakeholders are working collaboratively to alleviate this health concern.

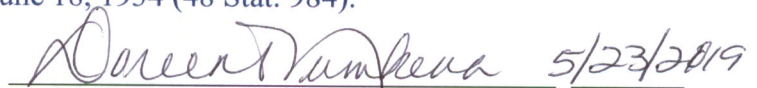
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution 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 Chairwoman, or in her 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 **MARCH 14, 2019** duly adopted by a vote of **SIX** for, **ZERO** against, and **ONE** 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 September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

  
Chairwoman, Gwedena Lee-Gatewood Date 5/23/19

  
Tribal Council Secretary, Doreen T. Numkena Date 5/23/2019