



# **WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE**

## **A Sovereign Tribal Nation**

### **(Authorizing Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center to Conduct Proposed Study "American Indian Structural Heart Disease Extender Program (IN-STEP Part 2 – IHS Comparison Data)")**

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- WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ("Reservation") provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council ("Council") shall exercise the power "[t]o represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe"; and
- WHEREAS,** The Tribe, in conjunction with the Whiteriver Service Unit, has worked to improve the level of health of all residents of the Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** American Indians, including members of the Tribe, are disparately impacted by conditions (diabetes, hypertension) that lead to high rates of cardiovascular disease, including structural heart disease ("SHD"); and
- WHEREAS,** increased access to cardiac ultrasounds, early detection of heart disease, and improved surveillance can improve outcomes in structural heart disease, decreasing associated morbidity and mortality; and
- WHEREAS,** Access to echocardiography, or cardiac ultrasound, is limited in rural settings like the Whiteriver Service Unit, and, via Resolution No. 10-2020-237, the Tribe approved a proposal to understand new implementation techniques in order to improve access to echocardiography for WMAT members; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe also approved a proposal to develop a cardiovascular disease extender program, co-designed with the community and would be integrated within the Community Health Representative Program, which is uniquely equipped to lead this preventative health initiative; and
- WHEREAS,** Cincinnati Children's Hospital and University of Washington partners are qualified to evaluate the implementation of the program, helping the CHR program to refine programmatic elements; and
- WHEREAS,** Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the Community Health Representative Program proposes that it be authorized to implement the proposed outlined American Indian Structural Heart Disease Partnership (IN-STEP) Program, with the goal of improving early structural heart disease detection, as well as structural heart disease awareness and management; and

**Resolution No. 06-2024-117**

**WHEREAS,** The Council finds that authorizing the proposed program will allow for refinement of the cardiovascular disease extender program integrated within the Community Health Representative Program to have the greatest impact to increase detection of structural heart disease and contribute to improved health outcomes for members of the Tribe.


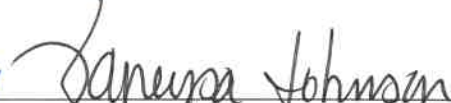
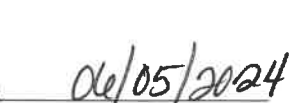
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Community Health Representative Program to implement the proposed program, "*American Indian Structural Heart Disease Extender Program (IN-STEP)*", as described herein.

**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 Chairman, or in his 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 JUNE 05, 2024 duly adopted by a vote of ELEVEN for, ZERO against, and ZERO 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 November 10, 2021, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

		
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman	Date	Vaneysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary