



# **WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE**

**A Sovereign Tribal Nation**

**(Authorizing Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center to Publish a Manuscript Titled "Engaging Tribal Members to Identify Needs and Priorities of a Local Heart Disease Program to Improve Cardiac Care for American Indians")**

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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, "To 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,** Access to echocardiography, or cardiac ultrasound, is limited in rural settings like the Whiteriver Service Unit, and in an effort to increase access the Council approved a proposal to co-develop a structural heart disease program (resolution 08-2023-197); and

**WHEREAS,** increased access to cardiac ultrasounds, early detection of heart disease and improved surveillance can improve outcomes in structural heart disease, thereby decreasing associated morbidity and mortality; and

**WHEREAS,** Cincinnati Children's Hospital, this day, proposes to the Council that it be authorized to conduct a study on evaluation of the cardiovascular disease extender program co-designed with the community and integrated within the Community Health Representative Program; and

**WHEREAS,** The Council finds that support of the Cincinnati Children's manuscript is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members, and agrees that the manuscript will support the notion that community-based participatory research methods, like group level assessment, can be successfully used to better understand community priorities and concerns around health issues, such as heart health, as demonstrated in this manuscript.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center to publish the proposed manuscript titled, "*Engaging*

***Resolution No. 08-2024-164***

*Tribal Members to Identify Needs and Priorities of a Local Heart Disease Program to Improve Cardiac Care for American Indians,” 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 AUGUST 07, 2024 duly adopted by a vote of SEVEN 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	Date