



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Authorizing Dissertation Research Entitled: “*Staphylococcus aureus* in Indigenous Communities in the Southwest United States: Estimating Invasive Disease Burden, Measuring Carriage Prevalence, and Exploring Knowledge and Attitudes Related to Disease Prevention”)

- 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 and Johns Hopkins University’s Center for Indigenous Health (“JHU”) have a long history of conducting studies to address infectious diseases that occur at higher rates among the White Mountain Apache Tribe and other Native American populations; and
- WHEREAS,** American Indians, including members of the Tribe, are disproportionately affected by invasive *Staph* infections, causing significant hardship; and
- WHEREAS,** JHU, this day, requests authorization from the Tribe to approve Sumayya Beekun, “PhD Student” hereafter, to analyze data for her dissertation research to provide an update on invasive *Staph* burden and *Staph* carriage; and
- WHEREAS,** JHU and PhD Student recognize the need to analyze the burden of invasive *Staph* disease and to understand the epidemiologic characteristics of invasive *Staph* in White Mountain Apache communities (See Resolution No. 04-2015-64); and
- WHEREAS,** JHU and PhD Student seek to analyze the prevalence of *Staph* carriage, which can be a precursor to disease, in children within the White Mountain Apache community, and determine the factors that increase risk for or protect against *Staph* carriage (See Resolution No. 08-2022-209); and
- WHEREAS,** JHU and PhD Student seek to understand community perspectives on *Staph*, guiding the development of culturally appropriate educational materials for the prevention and early recognition of *Staph* in the White Mountain Apache Tribal community (See Resolution No. 07-2020-148); and
- WHEREAS,** The results of this dissertation research will inform the development of an intervention for the reduction and prevention of *Staph* among Native American adults in the community; and
- WHEREAS,** The Council has reviewed this request, and finds that authorizing this work will help understand and address *Staph* and is in the best interest of the Tribe and its members.

Resolution No. 10-2024-213

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes PhD Student to conduct dissertation research entitled, “*Staphylococcus aureus in Indigenous Communities in the Southwest United States: Estimating Invasive Disease Burden, Measuring Carriage Prevalence, and Exploring Knowledge and Attitudes Related to Disease Prevention*”, as described herein, provided that copies of completed or published work is provided to the Tribe.

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 **OCTOBER 02, 2024** duly adopted by a vote of **SIX** for, **TWO** 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).

<u>Kasey Velasquez</u>	<u>10.2.24</u>	<u>Vaneysa Johnson</u>	<u>10/02/2024</u>
Kasey Velasquez, Chairman	Date	Vaneysa Johnson, Tribal Secretary	Date