

**ALL PUEBLO  
COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNORS**

Officers:  
E. Paul Torres, Chairman  
Governor Val Panteah, Sr., Vice Chair  
Governor J. Michael Chavarria, Secretary

**RESOLUTION**

**ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**

**RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2017-06**

**ENDORSEMENT TO ESTABLISH A NATIVE AMERICAN SOCIAL WORK  
STUDIES PROGRAM AT NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY**

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San Felipe

San Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta Del Sur

Zia

Zuni

**WHEREAS**, the All Pueblo Council of Governors (“APCG”) is comprised of the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia and Zuni, and one pueblo in Texas, Ysleta del Sur, each having the sovereign authority to govern their own affairs;

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the All Pueblo Council of Governors is to advocate, foster, protect, and encourage the social, cultural and traditional well-being of the Pueblo Nations; and,

**WHEREAS**, through their inherent and sovereign rights, the All Pueblo Council of Governors will promote the language, health, economic, and educational advancement of all Pueblo people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Apache, Navajo and Pueblo people have overcome a long history of imposition of policies and laws purposefully conceived to dismantle the family and community systems and institutions nurturing families, children and community wellbeing; and

**WHEREAS**, tribal nations have exercised their sovereign right in this time of self-determination to develop policies and laws to reverse the destructive and long term damaging effects of these historic policies and laws, a testament to their resilience, and perseverance; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1974, the founding of the Facundo Valdez School of Social Work at Highlands University with a mission to focus on Hispanic/Latino and Native American social work education held great promise and produced countless numbers of Native American social workers that have contributed in significant ways; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005, through a legislative initiative, the School responded to its pledge to focus on Hispanic/Latino social work education establishing a bilingual and bicultural sequence of courses to meet core graduation requirements to strengthen the preparation of students to work with the people of Hispanic/Latino rural and urban communities; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2015 New Mexico legislative session, the legislature endorsed a similar effort to establish a Native American Social Work Program at Highlands University Social Work and was supported by former Highlands University President James Fries collectively expressing the need for a specific mission focused on the unique needs of Native American people and their tribal communities as a result of the evolving complexities, socially, culturally and legally; and

**WHEREAS**, a Native American Social Work Program Advisory and Development Committee comprised of social work, psychology, and education practitioners representing the Apache, Navajo, Pueblo nations and the urban Indian populations has been established to develop curriculum focused on Native American community needs while meeting core graduation requirements; and

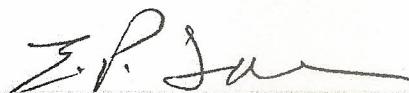
**WHEREAS**, the Native American Social Work Program at the Facundo Valdez School of Social Work would constitute the nation's first effort by a School of Social Work to respond in a programmatic way to Native American social work education.

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED**, the All Pueblo Council of Governors fully endorse the concept of establishing a Native American Social Work Program at New Mexico Highlands University to respond to the growing complexities of issues and challenges facing tribal communities and the State of New Mexico.

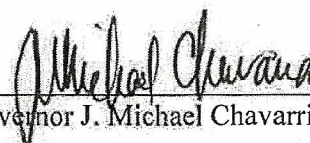
**CERTIFICATION**

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2017-06 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2017, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 16 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain, and 4 absent.

**ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**

By:   
APCG Chairman E. Paul Torres

ATTEST:

  
Governor J. Michael Chavarria, APCG Secretary

