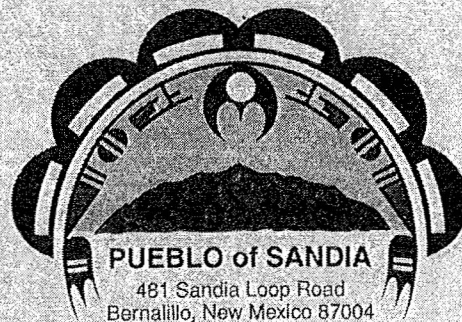


Malcolm Montoya
Governor

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Lt. Governor



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**TO ESTABLISH A NATIVE AMERICAN SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM
AT NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY,
FACUNDO VALDEZ SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**

Resolution 2017 - 100

At a duly called meeting, the Pueblo of Sandia Tribal Council ("Council") passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Pueblo of Sandia ("Pueblo") is governed by a Council made up of appointed representatives who act in accordance with the custom and tradition, and;

WHEREAS, the Council is the governing body of the Pueblo and is empowered to act in the best interest and well-being of the Sandia people, and is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security, and general welfare of the Pueblo, and;

WHEREAS, the Council is the ultimate authority to negotiate permits, contracts, and official documents on behalf of the community, and;

WHEREAS, the Apache, Dine', and Pueblo people have strived over centuries to exercise their sovereign right to assure appropriate response to the needs of the people. The struggle of Native people throughout the county to end the destructive and long-term damaging effects of the nation's assimilationist policy and to provide an appropriate education to their people is legendary and testament to the significance of education in tribal thought. The pan-tribal ethos that 'the people shall continue' propels the effort to establish a Native American Social Work Program at New Mexico Highlands University, Facundo Valdez School of Social Work, and;

WHEREAS, at the School's founding in 1974 a mission was established to focus on Hispanic/Latino and Native American social work education. In 2005 through a legislative initiative the School responded to its pledge to focus on Hispanic/Latino social work education by establishing a Bilingual/Bicultural sequence of courses that meet core graduation requirements. The courses comprising the sequence prepare students to work with people of Hispanic/Latino rural and urban communities and;

WHEREAS, in the 2015 New Mexico regular legislative session identical bills to establish a Native American Social Work Studies Institute at Highlands University School of Social Work was introduced in the House and Senate by Representative Roger Madalena and Senator Benny Shendo, Jr. respectively. The bill was supported by former Highlands University President James Fries who gave it priority status in an amendment to the University's budget request and the assistance of the University's lobbyist Max Baca to work on the effort, and;

WHEREAS, in the 2015 New Mexico legislative session the bill was among the ten funding priorities of the Legislative Native Coalition and received recommendation to move forward from requisite committees of both chambers with the exception of the Senate Finance Committee. The Native Coalition's budget request for \$1,000,000 was reduced to \$700,000 and as a result the social work educational initiative (\$120,000) was not funded, and;

WHEREAS, a Native American Social Work Program Advisory/Development Committee comprised of social work, psychology, and educational practitioners has been established to develop curriculum for a Native American social work sequence of courses that responds to community needs and meets core graduation requirements. The committee includes practitioners from Apache, Dine', and Pueblo tribal programs and off-reservation programs serving Bernalillo County residents from almost four hundred different out-of-state tribes, and;

WHEREAS, the Native people of New Mexico are determined to maintain pressure on the School and the University to respond to its pledge to focus on Native American social work education. Social work practice in Native communities is complex and requires knowledgeable and skilled practitioners who can appropriately respond to community need within the context of locally indigenous mores and norms in a complexly and often contested milieu, and;

WHEREAS, the establishment of 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. The absence of Native American social work programs in any of the schools in the country not only denies essential education to students who will work in Native communities but also the opportunity for Native practitioners to bring the expert knowledge and experience of their practice to the work of academia. The absence of opportunity effectively denies Native people a voice at the table of knowledge development.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council of the Pueblo of Sandia supports the establishment of a Native American Social Work Program at New Mexico Highlands University, Facundo Valdez School of Social Work and requests a faithful response to the School's founding mission to focus on Native American social work education.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Highlands University, Facundo Valdez School of Social Work administration work jointly with the Native American Social Work Advisory/Development Committee in its work to develop a sequence of courses that meet core graduation requirements.


AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Highlands University appropriates \$10,000 to support the work of the Native American Social Work Advisory/Development Committee.

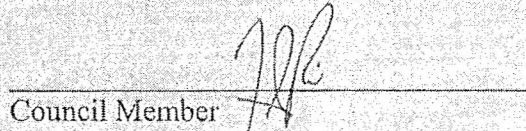
CERTIFICATION

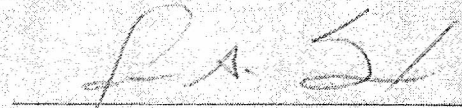
The foregoing resolution was considered and adopted at a duly called meeting of the Pueblo of Sandia tribal council on this 31st day of May 2017 at which time a quorum was present with 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 3 abstaining.



Governor

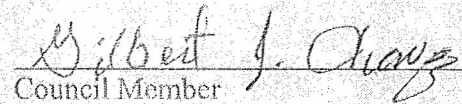
ATTESTED:

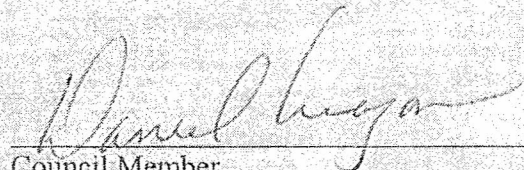

Secretary

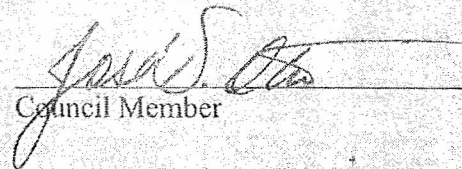

Council Member


Council Member


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Council Member