

United Tribes of Michigan

5453 Hughston Rd, Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740
Phone: 517-802-8650 --- Email: fettawa@charter.net

Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director

RESOLUTION # 040 10-14-2015

United Tribes of Michigan support for Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, the membership of United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) is open to all of the twelve federally recognized tribes located in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the organization provides a forum for the Tribes in Michigan to address issues of common concern and is committed to join forces to advance, protect, preserve and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign Indian Tribes of Michigan throughout the next seven generations; and

WHEREAS, UTM accepts the mission to engage, as a matter of mutual concern, issues that impact the health, security, safety, and general welfare of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, President Obama has declared October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence is a serious and pervasive public health, human rights, and social justice issue affecting one in four (25%) women nationally. The impact of domestic violence is devastating; and

WHEREAS, no one is more vulnerable than Native American women for the national statistics show two in five (40%) will be affected by domestic violence in their life time. Victims of domestic violence suffer in silence not knowing where to turn, with little guidance, and/or support. Sadly, this tragedy does not just affect adults; and

WHEREAS, exposure to violence in the home, even when a child is not directly injured, can contribute to behavioral, social and emotional problems. Children who experience violence are at a higher risk for failure in school, emotional and substance abuse disorders, and are more likely to perpetuate the cycle of violence themselves later in life; and


WHEREAS, ending domestic violence will require the collaborative efforts of everyone, including law enforcement, criminal justice system, public health officials, and community members. It will require that everyone communicate a universal message that violence of any

nature, and especially domestic violence, is unacceptable;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Tribes of Michigan acknowledges October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, recognizing all domestic violence victims and those who serve them. We recognize the individuals and groups, such as the Tribal Coalitions and Tribal Domestic Violence Programs, who have stepped forward to break the cycle of violence and recommit to putting an end to domestic violence in Indian Country and within the State of Michigan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, United Tribes of Michigan calls upon all Tribes and organizations, both tribal and non-tribal; law enforcement, health officials, and community members to speak out against domestic violence and support local efforts in Indian Country to help victims find the healing they seek.

Adopted by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, at a meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan held on October 14, 2015.



Chairman Homer A. Mandoka
UTM President