



# Witnessing Our Future



## Tribal Resolution to Support Project

Grant Lee Smith Meeting - May 3, 2016

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# White Mountain Apache Project

## “Celebrating Life” - 1

- **Surveillance System** to track # of people who:
  - attempted suicide, died by suicide, or counseled regarding suicide thoughts etc.
- **Surveillance system** to track:
  - characteristics of those people, services provided and when, outcomes, etc.
- Multiple presentations on Jan 27-29, 2015, to
  - our Project
  - Lummi Nation
  - Northwest Indian College

# White Mountain Apache Project

## “Celebrating Life” - 2

- Significant step early in their project -
- White mountain Apache Tribal Government passed a Tribal Resolution:
  - Support the Project; and
  - Mandated full cooperation with the Project by all sectors of the White Mountain Apache people, institutions, agencies, etc.
    - agencies not part of the Tribal Government

# “Witnessing Our Future”

- Partnership of
  - Northwest Indian College
  - Lummi Nation, Division of Behavioral Health
- Public-Private Coalition (“WOF Coalition”)
  - Lummi Community Members & agencies
    - Elders, youth, etc.
    - Police, Lummi Victims of Crime, Behavioral Health, etc.
  - Northwest Indian College
    - Students, Counselors, etc.

# Response to Presentation

- Unanimous recommendation of the WOF Coalition
- A formal Tribal Resolution of support for WOF Project to prevent suicide
- Explanatory note:
  - “Lummi Indian Business Council (LIBC)” of the Lummi Nation
    - Name of Tribal Council
    - Name of Government Administration

# Purposes of Resolution

- Declare the need to prevent suicide in Lummi Nation
- Achieve full cooperation & collaboration
  - LIBC administrative agencies, schools, etc.
  - NWIC
  - Lummi Nation (youth, Elders, etc.)
  - WOF Project
- Collect data to track performance & outcomes
- Focus on Prevention
- Rely on Lummi strengths & resilience

# Process of achieving Resolution

- Develop and establish a “receptive framework”
- Each component:
  - discussed with WOF its contribution to cooperation & collaboration
  - helped write specifics of plan to implement Resolution
- Resolution mandating cooperation and collaboration expressed what already had largely been achieved.
- Developed a self-sustainable data collection system
- DOWNSIDE: taking a long time (>1 year)
- UPSIDE: wide acceptance of need and solution

# For more Information

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