



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 723-8288

Resolution #21-0317-072

Resolution in support of Michigan Indian Legal Services Application to be a Subgrantee for the Department of Justice Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Grant

WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng Ziibi Daáwaa Aníshinaábek* (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians) as a sovereign and Treaty-making power is confirmed in numerous treaties, from agreements with the initial colonial powers on this land, to various treaties with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Tribe) is descended from, and is the political successor to, the Grand River Ottawa Bands, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491) with the United States, as reaffirmed by federal law in P.L. 103-324, enacted in 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted a new Constitution, pursuant to a vote of the membership on May 27, 1998, which Constitution became effective upon its approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on July 10, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on April 26, 2004, which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on May 13, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on July 11, 2016 which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on August 24, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 7(a) to provide for the public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Little River Band and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has a compelling interest to enhance access to civil legal assistance services for members and to enhance criminal defense counsel services at Tribal criminal proceedings for members; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has a component of the United States Department of Justice has announced a grant opportunity under the BJA Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Grants, Training, and Technical Assistance Fiscal Year 2021 Competitive Grant to support civil and criminal legal assistance to low-income individuals, through nonprofit organizations who are experienced in providing legal assistance services to eligible individuals pursuant to federal poverty guidelines, federally recognized Indian tribes, or tribal justice systems; and


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Tribal Council hereby submits this resolution in support of the submission of application under the BJA TCCLA grant by the Michigan Indian Legal Services (MILS) through its collaborator Montana Legal Services Association to strengthen civil and criminal legal assistance to low-income members, including but not limited to public defender services, civil legal assistance addressing collateral consequences of conviction and arrest, and supporting annual veterans' clinics; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Tribal Council hereby authorize MILS to implement the project of civil and criminal legal assistance within the boundary of the Reservation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, Montana Legal Services Association will be the lead agency in the submission of this application and will assume full responsibility for the fiscal integrity as well as program development and implementation of this application.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 9 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on March 17, 2021, via ZOOM, with a quorum being present for such vote.



Gary Di Piazza, Tribal Council Recorder



Ronald Pete, Tribal Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Council Records
Tribal Ogema