

CENTRAL COUNCIL *Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska* Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building 9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

## CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA Eighty-Eighth Annual Tribal Assembly April 19-21, 2023 Juneau, Alaska

Resolution TA 23-18

## Title: Support for SEARHC Elder Patient Advocates

By: Juneau Tlingit & Haida Community Council

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 35,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, tribal elders require support and advocacy when receiving care at the Alaska Native Medical Center Health Campus (ANMC) and during routine medical appointments in the Southeast region, as routine medical care can be overwhelming due to questions related to choice of services, services that are and are not covered as Indian Health Service (IHS) beneficiaries, and payment for services not covered; and

WHEREAS, tribal elders from the Southeast region have encountered requests for payment from providers that the elders were referred to by the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC), with confusion whether payments should be taken care of by SEARHC; and

WHEREAS, tribal citizen patients have requested assistance when traveling with transportation to housing, appointments, getting meals, as well as help in locating other patients traveling from the region, and navigating the Alaska Tribal Health Campus;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eighty-Eighth Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, convened on April 19-21, 2023, hereby request the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) explore options for having a Tlingit & Haida citizen based in the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage and a Tlingit & Haida citizen based in SEARCH in Juneau to serve as elder patient advocates.

ADOPTED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023, by the Eighty-Eighth Tribal Assembly of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

**CERTIFY** 

President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST

Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata