



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

2020-RES-020

RESOLUTION APPROVING GUARDIAN AD LITEM ADVOCACY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (“Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution;

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (“Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential under Article VI, § 2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution (“Constitution”) to promote and protect the political integrity, economic security and general welfare of the Tribe and members of the Tribe;

WHEREAS, the Constitution empowers the Tribal Council to establish procedures and ordinances for the conduct of all Tribal government business operations pursuant to Article VI, § 2.C;

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council determined it essential to promote the general welfare of the Tribe by enacting 2018-ORD-013, *Amended and Restated Child and Family Ordinance* (the “Child and Family Ordinance”);

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Child and Family Ordinance, the Tribe aspired to create for each child an environment in which he or she may become a strong and healthy member of the Mashpee community;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Child and Family Ordinance, the Tribe intended to provide for the welfare, care and protection of children and families within the jurisdiction of the Tribe and provide a venue for child welfare matters in Tribal Court;

WHEREAS, the Tribe has recently been awarded a Victim Witness Advocate Grant that would allow funding for Guardian Ad Litem advocacy services; (“GAL Advocate”)

WHEREAS, the Tribe desires to implement a GAL Advocacy program to serve children in connection with child welfare matters that may enter the Tribal Court system;



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

WHEREAS, the Tribal Court will appoint a GAL Advocate to appear at any peacemaking, hearing or other matter on behalf of a child within the jurisdiction of the Tribe;

WHEREAS, the Tribe desires that the GAL Advocate be a neutral party free from family and social ties with the interested parties in any proceeding to ensure the best interests of the child remain protected;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council authorizes the creation of a GAL Advocacy program to serve children in connection with child welfare matters that may enter the Tribal Court system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council authorizes the Tribal Council Chairman, or other authorized Tribal representative, to take such other actions as are reasonable or necessary in furtherance of the creation and implementation of the GAL Advocacy Program set forth in this Resolution.

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, §§ 2.A. and D. of the Constitution.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 11, constituting a quorum, were present at a regular meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 26th day of February, 2020, and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 10 members, with 0 opposing, and with 1 not voting.

DATED this 26th day of February, 2020.



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cedric Cromwell".

Cedric Cromwell, CHAIRMAN
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Marie Askew".

Ann Marie Askew, SECRETARY
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council