



BLACKFEET NATION

P.O. Box 850, Browning, MT, 59417
Telephone: (406) 338-7521 / Fax: (406) 338-7530

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Iloff "Scott" Kipp, Sr. - Chairman
Lauren J. Monroe, Jr. - Vice Chairman
Patrick D. Armstrong, Jr. - Secretary
Melissa Augare - Acting Treasurer

BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

Iloff "Scott" Kipp, Sr.
Patrick D. Armstrong, Jr.
Lauren J. Monroe, Jr.
Shelly Hall
Lyle Rutherford
Robert J. DesRosier
Everett Armstrong
Marvin Weatherwax, Jr.
Virgil Last Star

RESOLUTION

Declaring State of Emergency on Youth Homelessness within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Reservation

No. 10-2024

- WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is the duly constituted governing body within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, and
- WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has been organized to represent, develop, protect, and advance the views, interests, education and resources of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Article VI, Section 1(g), of the Blackfeet Constitution, the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is empowered to manage tribal affairs in an acceptable and businesslike manner, and
- WHEREAS,** On July 1, 2021, pursuant to Resolution No. 459-2021, the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council established a committee to address the homeless needs of youth on the Blackfeet Reservation, and
- WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has learned that out of the 1,945 students currently enrolled in the Browning School District, 247 students are homeless, with another 607 raised by grandparents or other relatives, and these numbers are likely to increase, and
- WHEREAS,** The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is aware that in 2021-2022, there were 320 homeless students in the Browning School District, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is aware of other students in the Heart Butte and East Glacier School Districts that are homeless, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council is aware that the youth homelessness crisis has grown both incrementally and exponentially leading to death, illness and deplorable living conditions within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Reservation, and

WHEREAS, The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council recognizes the magnitude of death and illness among Blackfeet youth, and the persistent discriminatory impacts of a lack of safe housing, necessitate the declaration of a state of emergency, and

WHEREAS, Although the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council has been and is acting with urgency, including the formation of a committee to address the youth homelessness crisis, an emergency declaration is necessary to mobilize resources, save lives, and provide for the public health, welfare, and safety of all, now

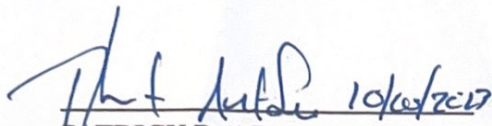
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:


1. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, acting for and on behalf of the Blackfeet Indian Nation, hereby declares a State of Emergency for homeless youth on the Blackfeet Reservation.
2. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, acting for and on behalf of the Blackfeet Indian Nation, hereby directs the United States Bureau of Indian Education to engage the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council and its representatives to immediately develop an emergency plan to provide for safe housing, nutrition, and educational services to Blackfeet Reservation-resident homeless youth at the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory, which shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Providing Blackfeet Descendant youth, who are residents of the Blackfeet Nation, with eligibility for residency at the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory;
 - b. Providing Blackfeet Descendant youth, who are residents of the Blackfeet Nation, with the same services that current enrolled Tribal Member youth enjoy at the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory;
 - c. Identify staffing needs required to cover the increased number of youth attending the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory;
 - d. Identify the funding sources required to cover the additional cost of services for the increased number of youth attending the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory;
 - e. Open the Blackfeet Boarding Dormitory year-round, Monday through Sunday.
3. That the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council, acting for and on behalf of the Blackfeet Indian Nation, hereby directs the programs and departments of the Blackfeet Tribal Government to coordinate its efforts to address this declared emergency with the federal government.

4. That the Chairman or Vice-Chairman in the Chairman's absence and the Secretary are hereby authorized to sign this Resolution and any other documents.

ATTEST:

**THE BLACKFEET TRIBE OF THE
BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION**

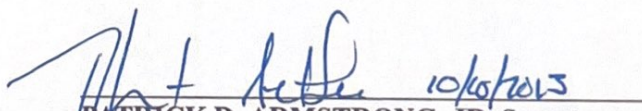

PATRICK D. ARMSTRONG, JR.
Secretary


ILIFF "SCOTT" KIPP, SR.
Chairman

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Blackfeet Tribal Business Council in a duly called noticed and convened General Session assembled for business the 6th day of October, 2023 with Seven (7) members present to constitute a quorum and by a vote of Seven (7) For, Zero (0) Opposed and Zero (0) Abstained.

(SEAL)


PATRICK D. ARMSTRONG, JR, Secretary
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council