

**National Federation of Democratic Women
Resolution on Raising Awareness of Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Peoples (Native)**

WHEREAS, the Washington State Federation of Democratic Women stands in solidarity with tribal, state and the federal government in raising awareness of missing and murdered indigenous (Native) peoples; and

WHEREAS, little data exists on the number of missing Native peoples in the United States and no comprehensive data base exists for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples including women, men, children, and LGBTQ2/NB; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, homicide was the third leading cause of death among Native peoples between 10 and 24 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Native trauma experts note the public is generally unaware that the disproportionate disappearances and murders of Native peoples directly correlates to multi-generational trauma with roots in a history of forced relocation, forced assimilation, boarding school legacy of abuse, familial separation, cultural and spiritual practice deprivation, extreme generational poverty, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), epigenetics, domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all Native women in the United States have been raped, beaten, or stalked by an intimate partner and are 2.5 times more likely to experience sexual assault. One in three Native women will be raped in her lifetime, and Native women are murdered at a rate ten times higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, there is clear need for increased education, awareness, and transparent reporting of this crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Federation of Democratic Women does hereby support May 5th, annually, as the Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women calls upon local, city, state and county law enforcement agencies to increase transparency and reporting of missing persons through mandatory data entry of all missing or unidentified persons found within their jurisdiction into the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) within thirty days.

DONE AND DATED on this 27th day of January 2019 by the Washington State Federation of Democratic Women,
Carin Chase, President
Adopted by the NFDW Membership at the 48th Annual Convention on June 15, 2019