

# LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA

CLLR-2026-0416-02

DATE: APRIL 16, 2026

## **“RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE FREEDOM & EDUCATION (SAFE) PROGRAM AND SUPPORT OF FUNDING TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND SERVICES”**

**WHEREAS**, the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina (“Lumbee Tribe”) is a recognized American Indian Tribe of the State of North Carolina, subject to the Constitution of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina (“Tribal Constitution”) and its inherent powers of self-government; and

**WHEREAS**, Article VII, Section 1 of the Tribal Constitution delegates all legislative authority to the Tribal Council of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina (“Tribal Council”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council is committed to promoting the health, safety, and well-being of its citizens and addressing issues that directly impact Lumbee families and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Substance Abuse Freedom & Education (SAFE) Program was established as a continuation of the former Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program following the expiration of grant funding on June 30, 2023, to ensure continued access to critical recovery services; and

**WHEREAS**, the SAFE Program provides immediate access to treatment and rehabilitation services, removes barriers such as lack of awareness, financial hardship, and transportation, reduces overdose fatalities and drug-related crime, and strengthens families by restoring individuals to productive, drug-free lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the SAFE Program is supported through the Robeson County Sheriff’s Charitable Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that ensures transparency, accountability, and proper stewardship of donated funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the SAFE Program operates in collaboration with the Robeson County Sheriff’s Office, Drug Courts, and the District Attorney’s Office to provide a comprehensive, community-based response to substance abuse and addiction; and

**WHEREAS**, program data reflects that a total of 630 individuals have been served, including 414 Indigenous participants, representing approximately 65.7% of all individuals served, thereby demonstrating that nearly two-thirds of beneficiaries are Indigenous and highlighting the significant impact on the Lumbee community; and

**WHEREAS**, the high percentage of Indigenous participants underscores the need for continued investment in programs that directly serve Native populations and address the disproportionate impact of substance abuse within Indigenous communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council recognizes that supporting recovery-based initiatives such as the SAFE Program is essential to strengthening families, improving community stability, and enhancing public safety across Robeson County and within the Lumbee Tribe; and

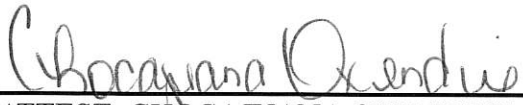
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Constitution and Ordinance Committee of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina hereby fully supports the Substance Abuse Freedom & Education (SAFE) Program and its mission to provide treatment access, rehabilitation services, transportation assistance, and recovery support; recognizes that approximately 65.7% of individuals served are Indigenous, highlighting its significant impact on the Lumbee community; and further supports the Finance Committee in reviewing, approving, and facilitating a contribution in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), from available unrestricted funds, to the Robeson County Sheriff's Charitable Foundation for the purpose of sustaining and expanding the SAFE Program, subject to the availability of funds and in accordance with applicable Tribal financial policies and procedures.

**CERTIFICATION**

THIS **CLLR-2026-0416-02** "RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE FREEDOM & EDUCATION (SAFE) PROGRAM AND SUPPORT OF FUNDING TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND SERVICES" ADOPTED AT A MEETING OF THE TWENTY-ONE (21) MEMBER TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA WHERE 19 MEMBERS WERE PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM THIS THE 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2026, BY A VOTE OF 18 YES, 0 NO, 1 ABS



ATTEST: ALBERT A. BAKER DATE  
SPEAKER, TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA



4-16-26

ATTEST: CHOCAJUANA OXENDINE DATE  
SECRETARY, TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA

**ROLL CALL VOTE RESULTS**

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**APRIL 16, 2026**

**18 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 1 ABSTENTION(S)**

District 1:	Billy Oxendine	YES
District 2:	Graylen Mitchell	ABSENT
District 3:	Harold Smith	YES
District 4:	Jody Bullard	YES
District 5:	Carrington Locklear	YES
District 6:	Larry Chavis	YES
District 7:	Rubalena Locklear	YES
District 8:	Kathy Hunt	YES
District 9:	Johnny Bell	YES
District 10:	Bobby Emanuel	YES
District 11:	Chocajuana Oxendine	YES
District 12:	Josephine Doss	YES
District 13:	Alex Baker	YES
District 14:	Homer Fields	YES
District 15:	Sharon Hunt	YES
District 16:	Nanci Locklear	ABSENT
District 17:	Sandra Dial	YES
District 18:	Mary Locklear	YES
District 19:	Larry Soles	YES
District 20:	Rudy Locklear	YES
District 21:	Eric Chavis	YES