



**KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION  
CHILDREN'S BILL OF RIGHTS  
RESOLUTION #09-15**

**RESOLUTION: ADOPTING CHILDREN'S BILL OF RIGHTS**

**WHEREAS**, we, the members of the KANA Board of Directors recognize a moral, social, spiritual and financial responsibility to protect and provide for the needs of the children of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that all children are created with the inherent right to be safe, to be loved and nurtured and to have adequate health care, nutrition and shelter; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that each child has the right to be free of physical or emotional abuse, to be protected from sexual abuse and exploitation, and to be free from neglect, discrimination and the demeaning or destructive acts of others; and

**WHEREAS**, all of our children have the right to a name and tribal identity and the right not to be separated from his/her birth parents and to know their extended family and community, which are important parts of the child's tribal identity as well as essential to assure our survival as a people; and

**WHEREAS**, all of our children have the right to learn about and benefit from our tribal history, culture, language, spiritual traditions and philosophy; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that parents have primary responsibility for providing their children with proper parental care, ongoing age-appropriate physical and emotional care, including emotional nurturing, adequate food, shelter, education, health care; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that parents have an absolute responsibility to provide their children with a safe and healthy home and child care environments, to teach their children safety skills and to provide appropriate supervision; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that we too have a responsibility to assure that the children of our tribe have a standard of health, safety, education and nurturing necessary to assist them in gaining healthy values and behaviors which will help them mature into healthy and productive members of our tribal community; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that the treatment of children, and therefore the welfare of our tribal children is the responsibility of the entire community, and that this responsibility extends to all of the children who reside in our community, regardless of their tribal origins or their length of residence; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognized that domestic violence, substance abuse, lack of supervision, inadequate medical care and physical or emotional neglect may result in far-reaching and traumatizing effects on a child's physical and emotional growth and development; and

**WHEREAS**, maltreated, neglected, parentless and traumatized children often need special care, treatment and support in a way that promotes their healing and safety, as well as their sense of dignity, value and future well-being.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the KANA Board of Directors shall advocate on behalf of children the following rights:

- The right to be safe, to be loved and nurtured and to have adequate health care, nutrition and shelter; and
- The right to be free of physical or emotional abuse, to be protected from sexual abuse and exploitation, and to be free from neglect, discrimination and the demeaning or destructive acts of others; and
- The right to a name and tribal identity and the right not to be separated from his/her birth parents and to know their extended family and community, which are important parts of the child's tribal identity as well as essential to assure our survival as a people; and
- The right to learn about and benefit from our tribal history, culture, language, spiritual traditions and philosophy; and
- The right to proper parental care, ongoing age-appropriate physical and emotional care, including emotional nurturing, adequate food, shelter, education, health care; and
- The right to a safe and healthy home and child care environments; and
- The right to a standard of health, safety, education and nurturing necessary to assist them in gaining healthy values and behaviors which will help them mature into healthy and productive members of our tribal community; and
- The right to be free from domestic violence, substance abuse, lack of supervision, inadequate medical care and physical or emotional neglect or other factors that may result in far-reaching and traumatizing effects on a child's physical and emotional growth and development.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the KANA Board of Directors shall advocate for and promote the safety, dignity and well-being of the community's children and shall collaborate with other community institutions and members, including governmental, business, social services and educational agencies, with the goal of assuring that all of the children of our community who are under the age of eighteen years are provided with adequate food, clothing, shelter and health care; that they are protected and supervised to assure their safety and health; that they receive nurturing, appropriate cultural teachings and adequate education/schooling – all of which are their inherent and basic rights as children.

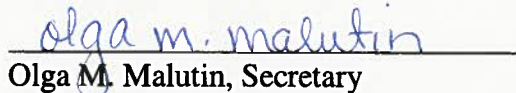
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the KANA Board of Directors shall undertake such other efforts as it may be deem necessary to assure the long-term safety and protection of our children.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this proclamation is undertaken on behalf of our children with the goal of preparing them to assume a creative, productive and honorable role in our society and to assure that the ultimate future of our people is considered in each action considered from this day forward by the members of the KANA Board of Directors.

**Adopted** by the Kodiak Area Native Association's Board on this 22<sup>ND</sup> day of May 2009.




Alex Panamaroff, Jr., Chairperson



Olga M. Malutin, Secretary

ATTESTED BY:



Andy Teuber, President/CEO