

WHAT IS THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT OF 1978?

The Act is a law designed to protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian Tribes and families.

The objective of this Indian Child and Family Services Program is to prevent the break-up of Indian families and, in particular, to insure that the removal of an Indian child from the custody of his parent or Indian custodian is a very last resort.

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM THE SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS LAW?

All Indian children and their families who *are* members or are *eligible* to be members of Federally recognized tribes.

WHAT SPECIFIC BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE?

Guidance, legal representation, and advice to Indian families involved in tribal, State, or Federal child custody proceedings:

- **Voluntary** child custody proceedings. Generally adoptive situations — insuring that certain standards and conditions are met.
- **Involuntary** child custody proceedings relating to adoption or foster care: as in cases of neglect, abuse, or other situations where there are grounds for permanent termination of parental rights.

WHERE CAN YOU GO TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AS THEY ARE DEFINED UNDER THIS LAW?

THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN CLUB
OF SYRACUSE & VICINITY, INC.

Corner of Fabius & Wyoming Sts.
Syracuse, New York

Serving the Indian community in a Local, Statewide and National capacity.

For additional information contact any of the following staff members at (315) 476-7425:

Sherry Angus, M.S.W. Director
Margaret Burnam Community/Court
Liaison

- NO FEES FOR PRIVATE COUNSELING AND FOLLOW-UP
- ASSURED CONFIDENTIALITY

Know your rights and duties clearly when voluntary and/or involuntary placement has become a necessity as a result of pressures incurred by severe illness, divorce, separation, or other unusual situations. The NAIC will insure that a diligent search is made to find the suitable Indian home for your needs.

FOR LEGAL ADVICE AND FEE SCHEDULE

contact:

Sherry Angus, MSW
476-7425

ABOUT THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN CLUB OF SYRACUSE & VICINITY, INC.

The NAIC was established in 1969, as a non-profit organization to give Native American people in the Syracuse area a place to participate in social and cultural events, acquire assistance in locating specific agencies that offer community services that conform to the exact needs of the individuals and families.

Along with meeting the unique referral needs of the Indian community, the NAIC has also grown in many areas of Human Services including: Health and Human Services (HHS); Department of Labor (DOL); Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Child Welfare Act, New York State Division of Economic Opportunity, Community Services Administration.

Programs derived from the above funding include:

- Indian Manpower Project
- Family Services
- Elderly Program
- Youth Program
- Substance Abuse
- Young Mother's Program
- Computerized Job Search
- Native People's Craft Shop

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

The NAIC of Syracuse & Vicinity, Inc.
P.O. Box 851, Syracuse, New York 13201

Ginny Doctor Executive Director
Terry Kawryga Executive Secretary

THE NAIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Marcia Steele
Vice-President Charlotte Tarbell
Secretary Cecelia LaDuke
Treasurer William J. Merchant
Board Members Ted Lewis
 Lorraine Mayotte
 Inez LaZore

PURPOSE OF THE NAIC

- To unite North American Indians in the City of Syracuse and its vicinity
- To promote social gatherings
- To increase educational opportunities
- To provide assistance to all Indians and their immediate families
- To enhance opportunities for economic and personal self-sufficiency
- To keep the Indian community informed of legislation, state and federal, affecting their well-being
- To provide a centralized location for information and referral services
- To promote an appreciation and understanding of the North American culture and its various subcultures to Indians and non-Indians throughout the city.



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May We Help You?

