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IDENTIFYING INDIAN CHILDREN

In child custody proceedings, the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) mandates that the state must follow the ICWA standards rather than the state standards. This is a critical point for the Cow Creek Tribes' Indian children and their parents. These higher standards ensure that the removal of Indian children are not premised upon cultural misinformation or bias by the state social workers.

It is important to note that before the State of Oregon can apply the standards of the ICWA, they must first have notice the child in question is a member of, or eligible to be enrolled in a federally recognized Indian tribe. The State social workers have an affirmative duty to inquire into the child's possible tribal membership. However, the required information is often times not asked by the State Social Worker, or given by the family. It is important for tribal parents to identify their Indian ancestry to child protective service social workers and actively request the protection of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). In the event that you have identified your Indian ancestry and the state agency does not contact your tribe, you must contact the tribe on your own. Call Fran Crispen, Indian Child Welfare Specialist, at (503) 672-9405 or (800) 929-8229.

JOB OPENING

Community Health Representative: Full Time, Duties include: Assessing patients social and health care needs, blood pressure checks, etc. Must be able to teach CPR, First Aid, and other related courses. Three week out-of-state training required. Must have valid Oregon drivers license and transportation. Send resume with cover letter to: Cow Creek Tribal Office, 2400 Stewart Parkway, Suite 300, Roseburg, Oregon 97470.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (L.I.H.E.A.P.)

L.I.H.E.A.P. is being contracted from the Department of Energy in Washington D.C. The program is available to assist eligible applicants with their home energy heating needs. For those in the eligible service areas, you will be receiving an informational flyer containing more details.