



Chico Clinic

845 W. East Avenue  
Chico, CA 95926  
(530) 896-9400  
Fax: (530) 896-9407

Dental and Maternal Health Center

500 Cohasset Rd. Ste 15  
Chico, CA 95926  
(530) 433-2500  
Fax: (530) 433-2510

Children's Health Center

1515 Springfield Dr. Ste 175  
Chico, CA 95928  
(530) 781-1440  
Fax: (530) 342-1663

Red Bluff Clinic

2500 N. Main Street  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
(530) 529-2567  
Fax: (530) 529-2552

Willows Clinic

207 N. Butte Street  
Willows, CA 95988  
(530) 934-4641  
Fax: (530) 934-4081

Woodland Clinic

175 West Court Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 661-4400  
Fax: (530) 661-4416

# Northern Valley Indian Health, Inc.

Mobile Dental Clinic  
530-520-6913  
www.nvih.org

## AUTHORIZATION TO SEEK MEDICAL CARE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I authorize  
(Print Minor Patient's Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ to seek healthcare attention for my child from  
(Print Name of Family Member or Friend)

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. I also consent to any medical treatment or procedures,  
(start date) (end date)

to be performed for my child by a licensed medical provider, that are necessary or advisable in the interest of my child's wellbeing.

**This form is valid for a maximum of one year. It is the parent or legal guardian's responsibility to notify Northern Valley Indian Health of any changes that might apply.**

Under the circumstances set forth above, I elect not to be informed in advance of the nature character of the proposed treatments, its results, possible alternatives, and the risks, complications, and anticipated benefits involved in the proposed treatments, and the alternative forms of treatment, including non-treatment.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FOR NVIH USE ONLY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name

HRN



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# Northern Valley Indian Health, Inc.

Mobile Dental Clinic  
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www.nvih.org

## Permission to Treat a Dental Minor Without A Parent or Guardian Present

Northern Valley Indian Health, Inc. (NVIH) must receive permission from a minor's parent or legal guardian before providing treatments for dental appointment that is non-life threatening (consent to treat is generally implied in emergency situations). This form gives us legal permission to treat your child in case you cannot accompany him/her to NVIH for dental treatment including but not limited to fluoride treatments, diagnostic radiographs, examinations, composite fillings, sealants and extractions. NVIH will treat your minor child without you present for dental treatment provided all the following conditions are satisfied:

- A parent or legal guardian must attend all examination/diagnostic visits for a minor at NVIH.
- The minor child is thirteen (13) years old or older.
- A parent or legal guardian must provide this form directly to our office, in person, before the effective date of this form.
- The parent or legal guardian has informed our office that they will not be present during the appointment before the minor comes in for the appointment.
- This "Permission to Treat a Minor Without a Parent or Guardian Present" is only effective for the time frame listed below.
- The dentist reserves the right to refuse to treat minors for non-life threatening care if he/she deems it necessary to have the parent/legal guardian present during such care.
- At the dental provider's discretion, certain procedure will require parent presence, or another adult who has the authority to make treatment decisions.
- All procedures requiring N2O (nitrous Oxide, laughing gas) will require a parent or guardian to be present.

**Patient's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Patient's Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency, I can be reached at:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

### AUTHORIZATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/legal guardian, of \_\_\_\_\_ have the legal right to preauthorize NVIH and its personnel to deliver dental treatment and services to my minor child \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby grant consent for my minor child to seek treatment including but not limited to fluoride treatments, diagnostic radiographs, examinations, composite fillings, sealants and extractions at NVIH unaccompanied by an adult.

**From** \_\_\_\_\_ **(enter date)** **To** \_\_\_\_\_ **(enter date)**

I acknowledge and agree that as the parent or legal guardian that I am responsible for all reasonable charges in connection with the care and treatment rendered for my minor child.

**Signature of Patient/Legal Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



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# Northern Valley Indian Health, Inc.

## Permission to Treat a Medical Minor without a Parent or Guardian Present

Northern Valley Indian Health, Inc. (NVIH) must receive permission from a minor's parent or legal guardian before providing treatments for a medical appointment that is non-life threatening (consent to treat is generally implied in emergency situations). This form gives us legal permission to treat your child in case you cannot accompany him/her to NVIH for a medical treatment for a follow-up medical appointment, vaccinations or a non-invasive medical treatment. NVIH will treat your minor child without you present for a medical visit provided all the following conditions are satisfied:

- A parent or legal guardian must attend any initial evaluation or visit for a minor at NVIH.
- The minor child is twelve (12) years old or older.
- A parent or legal guardian must provide this form directly to our office, in person, before the effective date of this form.
- The parent or legal guardian has informed our office that they will not be present during the appointment before the minor comes in for their appointment.
- This "Permission to Treat a Minor without a Parent or Guardian Present" is only effective for the time frame listed below.
- The medical provider reserves the right to refuse to treat minors for non-life threatening care if he/she deems it necessary to have the parent/legal guardian present during such care.

**Patient's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Patient's Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

In case of an emergency, I can be reached at:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Contact Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

### AUTHORIZATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/legal guardian, of \_\_\_\_\_ have the legal right to preauthorize NVIH and its personnel to deliver medical treatment and services to my minor child named above. I hereby grant consent for my minor child to seek vaccinations and non-invasive medical treatment at NVIH unaccompanied by an adult.

**From** \_\_\_\_\_ **(enter date)** **To** \_\_\_\_\_ **(enter date)**

I acknowledge and agree that as the parent or legal guardian, I am responsible for all reasonable charges in connection with the care and treatment rendered for my minor child.

☐ I, the Patient/Legally Authorized Person, am able to communicate effectively in English.

**Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HRN#** \_\_\_\_\_



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## CAREGIVER'S AUTHORIZATION AFFIDAVIT

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ HRN# \_\_\_\_\_

Use of this affidavit is authorized by Part 1.5 (commencing with Section 6550) Division 11 of the California Family Code.

**Instructions:** Completion of items 1-4 and the signing of the affidavit are sufficient to authorize enrollment of a minor in school and authorize school-related medical care. Completion of items 5 through 8 is additionally required to authorize any other medical care. **Print clearly.**

The minor named below lives in my home and I am 18 years of age or older.

1. Name of minor: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Minor's birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

3. My name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Adult giving authorization)

4. My home address (Street, apartment number, city, state, zip code):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. ☐ I am a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or other qualified relative of the minor.

(See page 2 of this Form for a definition of "qualified relative")

6. Check one of both (for example, if one parent was advised and the other cannot be located):

☐ I have advised the parent(s) or other person(s) having legal custody of the minor of my intent to authorize medical care, and have received no objection.

☐ I am unable to contact the parent(s) or other person(s) having legal custody of the minor at this time, to notify them of my intended authorization.

7. My date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

8. My California's driver's license or identification card number: \_\_\_\_\_

**WARNING: Do not sign this form if any of the statements above are incorrect, or you will be committing a crime punishable by a fine, imprisonment, or both.**

☐ I, the Patient/Legally Authorized person am able to communicate effectively in English.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

### NOTICES

1. This declaration does not affect the rights of the minor's parent or legal guardian regarding the care, custody, and control of the minor, and does not mean that the caregiver has legal custody of the minor.
2. A person who relies on this affidavit has no obligation to make any further inquiry or investigation.
3. This affidavit is not valid for more than one year after the date on which it is executed.

[www.saccourt.ca.gov](http://www.saccourt.ca.gov)

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### TO CAREGIVERS:

- 1) "Qualified relative", for purpose of item 5, means a spouse, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, uncle, aunt, niece, first cousin, or any person denoted by the prefix "grand" or "great" or the spouse of any of the persons specified in this definition, even after the marriage has been terminated by death or dissolution.
- 2) The law may require you, if you are not a relative or a currently licensed Foster parent, to obtain a Foster home license in order to care for a minor. If you have any questions, please contact your local department of social services.
- 3) If your minor stops living with you, you are required to notify any school, health care provider, or health care service plan to which you have given this affidavit.
- 4) If you do not have the information requested in item 8 (California driver's license or I.D.), provide another form of identification such as your social security number or Medi-Cal number.

### TO SCHOOL OFFICIALS:

- 1) Section 48204 of the Education Code provides that this affidavit constitutes a sufficient basis for a determination of residency of the minor, without the requirement of a guardianship or other custody order, unless the school district determines from actual facts that the minor is not living with the caregiver.
- 2) The school district may require additional reasonable evidence that the caregiver lives at the address provided in item 4.

### TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND HEALTH CARE SERVICE PLANS:

- 1) No person who acts in good faith reliance upon a caregiver's authorization affidavit to provide medical or dental care, without actual knowledge of fact contrary to those data on the affidavit, is subject to criminal liability or to civil liability to any person, or is subject to professional disciplinary action, for such reliance if the applicable portions of the form are completed.
- 2) This affidavit does not confer dependency for health care coverage purposes.

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ HRN# \_\_\_\_\_

[www.saccourt.ca.gov](http://www.saccourt.ca.gov)





## California Indian Legal Services (CILS) Community Legal Education Self-Help Series

Escondido ♦ Eureka ♦ Bishop ♦ Sacramento

# What is an Indian Custodian?

### ► What's in this guide and how can it help me?

This guide explains what an Indian custodian is. It also explains what responsibilities and rights Indian custodians have.

This guide can help you if you are an Indian custodian or you need to become one.

This guide can also help you if you are an Indian parent and you think you want someone else to be an Indian custodian for your child.

An Indian Custodian Form ("Designation of Indian Custodian") is attached for you to use.

⇒ **TIP:** If a word in this guide appears in **bold**, we define it afterwards. These terms are also defined at the end of this guide in the section called "Some Helpful Legal Terms," starting on Page 8.

## ✂ What Is an Indian Custodian? ✂

### ► What is an Indian custodian?

An Indian custodian:

- is an Indian person who has custody of an Indian child but who is not that child's biological parent
- has the right and responsibility to make decisions about a child's day-to-day care, well-being, and overall best interests
- has special rights under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA).

⇒ **TIP:** There are several different kinds of custody. See the section, "Some Helpful Legal Terms," for a more detailed explanation of the different kinds of custody.



## ► What is the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)?

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law that sets out rules that state courts must follow in child custody cases where Indian children are being removed from the homes of their parents or Indian custodians. These rules are designed to keep Indian children connected to their families and tribes. For more information, see the CILS Community Legal Education Self-Help Guide, "What Is the Indian Child Welfare Act?"

## ► Indian Custodian Checklist:

Three conditions have to be met for someone to be considered an Indian custodian:

- The child is an "Indian child" **and**
- The custodian got custody of the child in one of three specific ways **and**
- The custodian is an "Indian person."

You will need to read this whole section carefully to find out if you meet each of these three conditions.

## ► Who is considered an Indian child?

The child must be an Indian child as defined in the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). ICWA defines an "Indian child" as an unmarried person under the age of 18 who:

- is a member of a federally-recognized Indian tribe **or**
- is eligible for membership in a federally-recognized Indian tribe **and** is the biological child of a member of a federally-recognized Indian tribe.

If you don't know if a tribe is federally recognized, you can contact the tribe.

## ► What are the ways Indian custodians are allowed to get custody of an Indian child?

In order to be considered an Indian custodian, you have to get custody of an Indian child in one of three specific ways:

- the child's parent transfers the temporary physical care, custody, and control of the child to you **or**
- you get custody under tribal law or custom **or**
- you get custody under state law (such as through a "guardianship").





⇒ **TIP:** A **guardian** is someone who has custody of a child or children by order of a state court. The court decides what specific rights each guardian has. Guardians may be related to the child or children, but they don't have to be. They can also be called "**legal guardians**."

► **Who is considered an Indian person?**

There are several definitions of "**Indian person**":

If custody was obtained under state law, or from the parent(s), then an Indian person is someone who is defined as an "Indian" under federal law (such as a member of a federally-recognized Indian tribe).

If custody was obtained under the tribal law or custom of a federally-recognized Indian tribe, then an Indian person is someone who is considered an "Indian" under that tribe's laws or customs.

► **What if I don't meet all three conditions, as listed above, but I've been acting as the child's parent for a long time?**

If you don't meet all three conditions, you can't be considered an Indian custodian.

If you find yourself in court regarding the custody of the child, then you can ask the court to recognize you as the child's "**de facto parent**" under California law.

⇒ **TIP:** A **de facto parent** is someone who has been taking care of the child's day-to-day needs (as if they were the child's parent) for a long time.

The rights and responsibilities of de facto parents are very complicated. You can contact your local CILS office for more information about de facto parent status.

You may also be able to enroll the child in school or obtain medical care for the child. See our "What is a Caregivers Authorization Affidavit?" Self-Help guide.

## ✂ Rights and Responsibilities of Indian Custodians ✂

► **What are my responsibilities as an Indian custodian?**

You are responsible for the child's day-to-day care and well being. For example, you must be sure that the child goes to school and gets the medical care they need.

If you have problems enrolling the child in school or getting the child medical care because agencies or officials don't recognize your right to do this as an Indian custodian, contact your local CILS office to discuss your situation. See Page 6 for more information on how you can prove you have these rights as an Indian custodian.



You are not responsible for the child's financial support unless the child's parents have had their parental rights "**terminated**" (ended). If the child's parents have not had their parental rights terminated, they are still responsible for supporting the child financially.

► **Can I get financial assistance for the Indian child?**

You may be eligible for a number of state and federal assistance programs. These programs include:

California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs). This is the federal welfare-to-work program run by the state of California.

- Foster Care benefits
- Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) benefits. This is a payment program for relatives who become guardians of the child in their care and leave the foster care program.
- Adoption Assistance Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (for children with disabilities)

Your eligibility for these programs depends on whether you're related to the child and how you got custody of the child.

► **Can I get medical care benefits for the child?**

If you are eligible to receive CalWORKs, Foster Care, SSI, or Kin-GAP on behalf of the Indian child, the child will be eligible to receive Medi-Cal benefits.

The child may also be eligible for federal health care benefits offered by Indian Health clinics.

For more information about health care benefits offered by Indian Health clinics, you can contact the California Area Indian Health Service at (916) 930-3927 or go to their website, at <http://www.ihs.gov> and select Area Offices & Facilities, California.

In some cases, the child may also be eligible for private medical insurance benefits through his or her tribe.

You can contact the child's tribe for more information about getting the child private medical benefits.

If you have private medical insurance, your insurance plan may cover the child's medical care. But insurance companies may want you to have a formal custody arrangement, such as a guardianship.





- You can contact your medical insurance company to find out if your plan covers the child in your custody.
- You should know that if you get state or federal financial assistance for the child, the District Attorney may take the child's parent(s) to court and try to get financial support for the child from them.

► **What rights do I have as an Indian custodian?**

As an Indian custodian, you have the right to:

- enroll the child in school
- get the child the medical care they need
- participate in child custody cases where ICWA applies, and have certain rules followed in those cases

► **What child custody cases does ICWA apply to?**

ICWA applies to child custody cases where an Indian child may be taken away from a parent or Indian custodian, or where parental rights are being **"terminated"** (ended). These include cases where:

- the child may be placed in foster care
- someone may become guardian of the child by order of the court
- the child may be put up for adoption
- the child may be removed from the home by a child protective service agency.

ICWA **doesn't** apply in custody disputes between the biological mother and the biological father, unless:

- someone who isn't the child's parent(s) may get custody of the child **or**
- one parent is trying to terminate the rights of the other parent.

⇒ **TIP:** If you are involved in an ICWA case, you may want to refer to the Community Legal Education Self-Help Guide, "What Is the Indian Child Welfare Act?" for more information.

## ✂ Proof of Indian Custodianship ✂

► **What can I do to make it easier to have my rights as an Indian custodian recognized?**

*Celebrating over 40 Years of Advocacy for the Rights of Native Americans and Indian Tribes*



If a parent transferred custody of his or her child to you, the parent can fill out an "Indian Custodian Form." This form:

- proves that the parent gave you temporary custody **and**
- proves that you have the power to make decisions about medical care for the child

► **Do I have to have a completed Indian Custodian Form in order to prove I'm an Indian custodian or use this power?**

You don't need to fill out a specific form or go through any specific process to set up an Indian custodianship. But having a form that proves you have custody of the Indian child may make it easier for you to "**exercise**" (use) your rights to make decisions about medical care or enroll the child in school.

► **Why will having proof make it easier for me to exercise my rights as an Indian custodian?**

Schools may not let you enroll the child unless you can prove you have the right to do so.

Medical staff may not treat the child unless you can prove you have the right to make decisions about their medical care.

Proof that you have the right to make decisions for the child provides protection for the school or doctor. For instance, if you didn't have permission to make medical decisions for an Indian child, a doctor could get in trouble with the parents if he or she treats them.

An Indian Custodian Form ("Designation of Indian Custodian") is attached for you to use.

► **Is there any other way to prove that I have custody of an Indian child?**

Yes. There are several other ways you can prove that you have custody of an Indian child:

If you got custody of an Indian child from a state court or a tribal court, you can use the court order that gave you custody. You may need to get a certified copy of the court order to prove that it's still in effect.

⇒ **TIP:** You can get a certified copy of the court order from the court clerk where the child custody hearing took place. You may have to pay for the certified copy. A "**certified copy**" is one that is issued directly by the court.





If you got custody under tribal law or custom, but the tribe doesn't have a formal court system, you can ask for a letter from the tribal leader (for example, the Tribal Chairperson) or a resolution from the tribal government.

If you can't get any of the documents listed above, you can complete a "**declaration**" or an "**affidavit**" that describes how you got custody of the child. These may be accepted as proof of custody.

⇒ **TIP:** An **affidavit** is a written statement where the person who signs it swears that the information on the form is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. It must be notarized. A **declaration** is also a written statement where the person who signs it swears that the information on the form is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. The person who makes it promises they are telling the truth under "**penalty of perjury**." This means that if they knew they were lying, they would have to pay a fine or go to jail. A declaration does not have to be notarized.

To find out how you can get an affidavit or a declaration, you can contact your local CILS office.

## ✧ For Indian Parents ✧

### ► I'm an Indian parent and I want someone else to be the Indian custodian for my child. What do I do?

As an Indian parent, you can choose to transfer the temporary custody of your child to someone else. If you make this choice of your own free will, it is called "**voluntary**."

⇒ **TIP:** If you don't freely choose to transfer temporary custody of your child to another person, it is called "**involuntary**." An example is if Child Protective Services removes your child from your home.

If you want someone else to be the Indian custodian for your child:

- Review the information on Pages 1-6 of this guide so you know what an Indian custodian is, understand how someone can become one, and know what rights and responsibilities the Indian custodian will have.
- Remember, you will still have rights as the child's parent, as well as the responsibility to support the child financially.
- Remember that your decision to name someone else as Indian custodian does not have to be permanent. If your decision to transfer custody was **voluntary**, you can reverse your decision whenever you want.



If you want to make someone else an Indian custodian, you can fill out the attached Indian Custodian Form.

If you're an Indian parent and you're considering making someone an Indian custodian, you can call CILS to discuss your situation.

► **What if my decision to transfer custody to an Indian custodian was involuntary? Can it be reversed?**

If, for instance, Child Protective Services removed your child from your home, then your decision to give up custody was **involuntary** and can only be reversed by the court.

You can contact your court-appointed attorney to discuss your situation.

## ✂ Some Helpful Legal Terms ✂

► **What do some of the legal words I hear about Indian custodians mean?**

Some of the words you might hear or see in relation to Indian custodians, and their meaning, are listed below.

**Affidavit** is a written statement where the person who signs it swears that the information on the form is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. It must be notarized.

**Certified copy** is one that is issued directly by a government agency. It is printed on official government paper and has an official government seal.

**Custody** includes being able to make decisions about a child's day-to-day care and well-being and overall best interests. There are several different kinds of custody.

**Legal custody** means having the right to make all major decisions about a child's well-being, such as where to go to school and what doctor to see. Parents have legal custody by right, but the court can give legal custody to someone besides a parent.

**Physical custody** means having the child live with you and making decisions about his or her day-to-day care, such as what to eat and when to sleep. Many Indian custodians have physical, not legal, custody.

**Joint custody** is when more than one person, such as both parents, has custody of the child.

**Declaration** is a written statement where the person who signs it swears that the information on the form is true and correct to the best of their knowledge.





The person who makes it promises they are telling the truth under “**penalty of perjury**.” This means that if they knew they were lying, they would have to pay a fine or go to jail. Unlike an affidavit, it does not have to be notarized.

**De facto parent** is someone who has been taking care of the child’s day-to-day needs (as if they were the child’s parent) for a long time. De facto parent status must be given by a judge.

**Guardian** is someone who has custody of a child or children by order of the court. The court decides which specific rights each guardian has. Guardians may be related to the child or children, but they don’t have to be. He or she can also be called a **legal guardian**.

**ICWA** (the Indian Child Welfare Act) is a federal law that sets out rules that state courts must follow in child custody cases where Indian children are being removed from their parents, Indian custodians, or guardians. These rules are designed to keep Indian children connected to their families and tribes.

**Indian child**, according to ICWA, is an unmarried person under the age of 18 who is a member of a federally-recognized Indian tribe; **or** who is eligible for membership in a federally-recognized Indian tribe **and** is the biological child of a member of a federally-recognized Indian tribe.

**Orders** are instructions given by a judge that command (or “order”) another government department or agency to take some specific action. They are also called “**court orders**.”

**Proceedings** are court cases or hearings.

**Terminated** means a parent(s)’ rights have been ended.

**Voluntary** means you choose to transfer the temporary custody of your child to another Indian person of your own free will. **Involuntary** means you did not freely choose to transfer temporary custody of your child to another Indian person. An example is if Child Protective Services removes your child from your home.

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#### **Disclaimer**

This information is intended to assist you with your legal problem. Each area of the law is complex and changing. Your case may have special factors that could affect the applicability of this information. CILS does not guarantee that this information is sufficient to resolve your legal problem. If you have any questions, you should seek the advice and counsel of an attorney.

#### **CILS Community Legal Education Series**

The Community Legal Education Series is a project of CILS. The Series’ mission is to expand access to legal resources that increase Indian self-sufficiency. This guide is part of our Community Legal Education Self-Help Series, providing Indians and Indian tribes with user-friendly information and self-help assistance pertaining to their legal status and rights. Community Legal Education Self-Help guides, and more information about CILS and California Indian issues, are available on our website at [www.calindian.org](http://www.calindian.org).

#### **California Indian Legal Services**

*Celebrating over 40 Years of Advocacy for the Rights of Native Americans and Indian Tribes*



Principal Office: 609 South Escondido Blvd., Escondido, CA 92025  
Phone: (760) 746-8941, Fax: (760) 746-1815, email: [contactCILS@calindian.org](mailto:contactCILS@calindian.org)

**Do you have a legal problem? For assistance, contact your local CILS office:**

Bishop: (760) 873-3581, or toll-free at (800) 736-3582  
Escondido: (760) 746-8941, or toll-free at (800) 743-8941  
Eureka: (707) 443-8397, or toll-free at (800) 347-2402  
Sacramento: (916) 978-0960, or toll-free at (800) 829-0284



**DESIGNATION OF INDIAN CUSTODIAN**

(25 U.S.C. 1901, *et seq.*)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the parent of  
\_\_\_\_\_, date of birth \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby transfer the care and custody of my son/daughter, to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, an Indian person, and pursuant to the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA),  
25 U.S.C. 1901, *et seq.*, I hereby designate \_\_\_\_\_ as my son/daughter's Indian  
custodian.

I do hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to consent to any medical treatment and  
hospital care of my son/daughter which is deemed advisable, enroll my child (ren) in school, and otherwise exercise  
responsibility for the day-to-day care and well-being of my child (ren).

This placement is revocable at any time pursuant to the terms of the Indian Child Welfare Act. By making  
this placement I do not waive my rights under the Indian Child Welfare Act to notice in any future state court  
proceeding involving the custody of son/daughter.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent)

I accept this designation as the Indian custodian of \_\_\_\_\_.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Custodian)