

# Arizona Department of Child Safety

**Presented by:**

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# DCS Office of Tribal Relations

## Accessing Regional Resources

### **The Indian Child Welfare Act states (in part):**

Active efforts are affirmative, active, thorough, and timely efforts intended primarily to maintain or reunite an Indian child with his or her family.



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You must use active efforts to prevent the breakup of the family. Before ordering an involuntary foster care placement or termination of parental rights (TPR), the court must conclude that active efforts have been made to prevent the breakup of the Indian family and those efforts have been unsuccessful. The court will require active efforts to be documented in detail in the record.

How?



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## Active Efforts



U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Final Rule: Indian Child Custody Proceedings  
25 CFR § 23.2, § 23.120

### What are active efforts?

Active efforts are affirmative, active, thorough, and timely efforts intended primarily to maintain or reunite an Indian child with his or her family.

### What must active efforts involve?

Where an agency is involved in the child-custody proceeding, active efforts must involve assisting the parent(s) or Indian custodian through the steps of a case plan and with accessing or developing the resources necessary to satisfy the case plan.

### How should active efforts be provided?

To the maximum extent possible, active efforts should be provided in a manner consistent with the prevailing social and cultural conditions and way of life of the Indian child's Tribe and should be conducted in partnership with the Indian child and the Indian child's parents, extended family members, Indian custodians, and Tribe.

### Are active efforts tailored to each case?

Yes, active efforts are to be tailored to the facts and circumstances of the case.

### When are active efforts required?

The active efforts requirement applies in any foster-care or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding involving an "Indian child" (see 25 CFR 23). The court must conclude, prior to ordering an involuntary foster-care placement or termination of parental rights, that active efforts have been made to prevent the breakup of the Indian family and that those efforts have been unsuccessful.

### Must active efforts be documented?

Yes, the court will require active efforts to be documented in detail in the record.

### Active efforts may include, for example:

- (1) Conducting a comprehensive assessment of the circumstances of the Indian child's family, with a focus on safe reunification as the most desirable goal;
- (2) Identifying appropriate services and helping the parents to overcome barriers, including actively assisting the parents in obtaining such services;
- (3) Identifying, notifying, and inviting representatives of the Indian child's Tribe to participate in providing support and services to the Indian child's family and in family team meetings, permanency planning, and resolution of placement issues;
- (4) Conducting or causing to be conducted a diligent search for the Indian child's extended family members, and contacting and consulting with extended family members to provide family structure and support for the Indian child and the Indian child's parents;
- (5) Offering and employing all available and culturally appropriate family preservation strategies and facilitating the use of remedial and rehabilitative services provided by the child's Tribe;
- (6) Taking steps to keep siblings together whenever possible;
- (7) Supporting regular visits with parents or Indian custodians in the most natural setting possible as well as trial home visits of the Indian child during any period of removal, consistent with the need to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the child;
- (8) Identifying community resources including housing, financial, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, and peer support services and actively assisting the Indian child's parents or, when appropriate, the child's family, in utilizing and accessing those resources;
- (9) Monitoring progress and participation in services;
- (10) Considering alternative ways to address the needs of the Indian child's parents and, where appropriate, the family, if the optimum services do not exist or are not available;
- (11) Providing post-reunification services and monitoring.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This quick reference guide is not comprehensive and highlights only some of the requirements of the statute at 25 U.S.C 1901 et seq. and regulations at 25 CFR 23. To the extent there are any discrepancies, the statute and regulations govern.



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- One way of providing Active Efforts is through Culturally Appropriate Services. These services can be provided in Maricopa, Pima and Coconino County through the following Non-Profits, Federal and Tribal Resources :

- Maricopa County:
  - Phoenix Indian Center
  - Native Health
  - Native Connections
  - 3 Precious Miracles
- Statewide:
  - Indian Health Services

- Coconino County:
  - Native Americans for Community Action (NACA)
- Pima County:
  - Tucson Indian Center
- Statewide:
  - Indian Health Services
- Tribal Resources



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- **Phoenix Indian Center:**
  - Website: [phxindcenter.com](http://phxindcenter.com)
  - Phone: 602-264-6768
  - Resources include:
    - Job Preparedness
    - Prevention Services
      - Parenting in 2 Worlds
      - Living in 2 Worlds
    - Cultural Enrichment Programs
    - Youth Services
      - Mentorship Program
      - Youth Leadership
      - College and Career Readiness
    - Community Engagement Services
- **Native American Connections**
  - Website: [www.nativeconnections.org](http://www.nativeconnections.org)
  - Phone: 602-254-3247
  - Resources include:
    - Behavioral Health
      - Residential Substance abuse treatment and recovery
      - Substance Abuse Outpatient
      - Counseling
      - Traditional Healing
    - Housing
      - Affordable Housing
      - Youth Housing
      - Permanent Supportive Housing



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- Native Health
- Website: [www.nativehealthphoenix.org](http://www.nativehealthphoenix.org)
- Phone: 602-279-5263
- Locations in Central Phoenix, Dunlap and I-17 and Mesa
- Resources include:
  - Primary Care Medical Services
  - Dental
  - Behavioral Health
    - Recovery Services/Anger Management/Continuing Care Program/Domestic Violence Services
    - Individual, Group and Family Counseling, Native STAND, Weaving Butterflies, Positive Indian Parenting
  - Community Health and Wellness
    - Home Visits, Youth Diabetes Prevention Camp, Wellness Warriors, WIC



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- **Three Precious Miracles**
- Website: [www.threepreciousmiracles.com](http://www.threepreciousmiracles.com)
- Phone: 520-610-2555
- Located in Sacaton on the Gila River Indian Reservation
- Non Profit that supports Native American Children in Foster Care and Foster parents who have Native American Children in their care
- Services Include:
  - Care Packages
  - Cultural Awareness
  - Mentorship
  - Support Group





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- **Tucson Indian Center**
- Website: [www.ticenter.org](http://www.ticenter.org)
- Phone: 520-884-7131
- Services include:
  - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Program (Job Assistance)
  - Leadership Development Program
  - Health and Wellness
    - Assessment and Case Management/Substance Abuse Treatment and Support Services
    - Native Afterschool Program
    - Youth Coalition
    - Educational Opportunities



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- **Native American's for Community Action (Flagstaff)**
- Website: [www.nacainc.org](http://www.nacainc.org)
- Phone: 928-526-2968
- Services:
  - Primary Care Services
  - Behavioral Health Services
  - WIC
  - Wellness/Fitness Center



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- Indian Health Services
  - Phoenix Indian Medical Center
  - Website: [www.ihs.gov/Phoenix/healthcarefacilities/phoenix/](http://www.ihs.gov/Phoenix/healthcarefacilities/phoenix/)
  - Phone: 602-263-1200
  - Services:
    - Primary Care and Inpatient (including specialty care) health services
    - Behavioral Health Services
    - Dental
    - Women and Infant Services
    - Public Health Education



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- Tribal Resources
- Call Tribal Social Services for a list of services that may be provided by each tribe



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