



IN THE CHICKALOON VILLAGE TRADITIONAL TRIBAL COURT

PROPOSED ICW KINSHIP CONNECTION AGREEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

As the assigned ICW Caseworker, you are responsible for reviewing and completing this form thoroughly and thoughtfully. The goal of the Kinship Connection Agreement is to ensure long-term, meaningful connections between adopted Tribal Youth and their extended family, culture, and community.

REVIEW AND PREPARATIONS CHECKLIST:

Review Tribal Youth's Family History

- Identify the family the Tribal Youth is connected to by blood, Clan, or custom.
- Review existing records, genealogies, and any family trees available.
- Consult with extended family members or Elders if clarification is needed.

Assess and Document Family Connections

- List all relevant relatives (*e.g., parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts/uncles, cousins*).
- For each relationship, indicate the types of contact being recommended (*e.g., in-person visits, phone calls, participation in ceremonies*).
- Be specific in describing frequency and method of contact whenever possible.

Youth Voice (If Age 12+)

- Interview the Tribal Youth (*if 12 or older and developmentally able*) regarding their wishes and preferences.
- Document the youth's stated desires around family contact and cultural participation.
- Include the youth's voice in recommendations to the Court.

Final Recommendation to the Court

- Based on your review, recommend the types and amount of contact the Tribal Youth should have with each family grouping.
- Use professional judgment in balancing safety, best interests of the youth, and cultural/kinship priorities.
- Submit your proposed agreement with your full name, signature, and date.



**IN THE CHICKALOON VILLAGE
TRADITIONAL TRIBAL COURT**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:

Tibal Youth's Full Name on Birth Certificate/Date of Birth

Adoptive Parent(s)

Case No.: _____

**PROPOSED ICW
KINSHIP CONNECTION
AGREEMENT**

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to ensure that the Tribal Youth maintains meaningful connection to their extended family, Tribal identity, and community, following adoption. This reflects the values of Chickaloon Native Village and supports the Tribal Youth's lifelong connection to their people.

I, _____ propose the following to the Court:
ICW Caseworker Name

1. EXTENDED FAMILY CONTACT *(check all that apply):*

The Tribal Youth will maintain regular contact with the following relatives:

Aunt/Uncle(s): _____

Contact may include *(check all that apply):*

In-person visits *(Specify):* _____

Phone or video calls

Letters, gifts, or packages

Participation in family ceremonies or events

Other: _____

Grandparent(s): _____

Contact may include *(check all that apply):*

In-person visits *(Specify):* _____

Phone or video calls

Letters, gifts, or packages

Participation in family ceremonies or events

Other: _____

Sibling(s): _____

Contact may include (*check all that apply*):

In-person visits (*Specify*): _____

Phone or video calls

Letters, gifts, or packages

Participation in family ceremonies or events

Cousin(s): _____

Contact may include (*check all that apply*):

In-person visits (*Specify*): _____

Phone or video calls

Letters, gifts, or packages

Participation in family ceremonies or events

Other: _____

Contact may include (*check all that apply*):

In-person visits (*Specify*): _____

Phone or video calls

Letters, gifts, or packages

Participation in family ceremonies or events

2. EMERGENCY/CULTURAL CONTACT

Adoptive parent(s) must make reasonable efforts to ensure the Tribal Youth is present for key family or Tribal events, including funerals of close relatives, coming-of-age ceremonies, or significant cultural gatherings when invited.

3. TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP

Adoptive parent(s) must:

Maintain the Tribal Youth's Tribal enrollment.

Support the Tribal Youth's participation in Tribal events and services.

Inform the Tribe if planning any relocation or legal changes that could impact the Tribal Youth's connection to the community.

Other: _____

4. TRIBAL MENTORSHIP

The Tribal Youth be paired with a Tribal cultural mentor or Elder to support their cultural growth and connection to Chickaloon Native Village values and traditions.

5. ANNUAL UPDATE

Adoptive parent(s) must provide an annual update to the CVTC ICWA Program regarding efforts made to maintain kinship and cultural ties.

Signature of ICW Caseworker

Print Name

Date