

Native American Indian Association of Tennessee, Inc.
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Review of NAIA Activities for 2012

Once again, it is time for us to reflect on what we accomplished the past year, to see if the goals we set were achieved.

We are proud that NAIA continues to grow and now has a loyal membership of Native Americans and others who are concerned about the American Indians living in the state of Tennessee. Our Board of Directors, Advisors to the Board, and the general membership have given unselfishly of their time and effort in providing needed services to Native American Indians and in performing the functions of the Association.

In keeping with our purpose, the Association provided or arranged for housing/apartment rent, clothing, food, utilities, health care, college and vocation training, literacy training, job placements, as well as many other services for eligible applicants.

We are most excited to report that for the third year now, NAIA was awarded a Workforce Investment Act grant by the U.S. Department of Labor. These funds enable us to provide employment and training services for Native American Indians throughout the state. Each year the number of participants has grown and we are excited to see many lives being improved through this important program.

The Tennessee Art Commission, Metro Art Commission, Tennessee Department of Tourist Development, Middle Tennessee Electric Customer Care Program, The Memorial Foundation, and Regions Bank each awarded NAIA grants during 2012. These grants are deeply appreciated and help to promote the cultural heritage of Native American Indians in history and in the modern world.

Perhaps the most exciting news of the year was the purchase of 5.95 acres of land on October 2, 2012 off Bell Road, in the Cane Ridge Community, for the future home of the Circle of Life Indian Cultural Center. When finished, the Center will home the Administration Office, Indian Library and an Exhibit Hall.

The 2011 and 2012 Indian Education Pow Wow and Fall Festival was our largest to-date. Participation by our visitors and spectators was fantastic!

All in all, 2012 has been a very good year for NAIA. We would like to thank all those who have shared in our undertakings and accomplishments and look forward to an even more fulfilling and rewarding year in 2013.

