



## **BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY**

### **TRIBAL BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:**

The Tribal Burial Assistance Program Policy is established by the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council is designed to assist with paying funeral expenses for Bishop Paiute Tribal Members.

### **PURPOSE:**

The Burial Assistance program was established to provide financial assistance toward funeral costs.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR BISHOP PAIUTE BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?**

Deceased enrolled members of the Bishop Paiute Tribe or a recognized deceased member who is eligible for enrollment into the Bishop Paiute Tribe who dies prior to completing the enrollment process.

### **MAXIMUM BENEFIT:**

The Bishop Paiute Tribe Burial Assistance Program will pay directly to the funeral home/Mortuary of choice, a maximum of \$4,500.00 for funeral related costs. The family or representative of the deceased is responsible for any costs over \$4,500.00.

### **WHAT SERVICES ARE COVERED BY THE BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?**

Funeral home services and expenses offered by the identified funeral home/Mortuary as established by the Mortuary's Statement of Funeral Goods and Services.

### **HOW DO I APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE WHEN A MEMBER DIES?**

The appointed representative or designated family member of the deceased should contact the Social Services Coordinator at the Community Services Center, 2490 Diaz Lane, Bishop, California, telephone number (760) 873-4414, or (760) 873-3584, Enrollment Specialist at (760) 873-3584, Ext. 258, or Tribal Secretary at Ext. 229. In the event there is not an appointed representative or family member, the next of kin will be accepted to act as the deceased's representative in the matter of the Bishop Paiute Burial Assistance Program.

## **WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY FOR THE DECEASED?**

The following information is required:

- ❖ Name of the deceased
- ❖ Date of death
- ❖ Enrollment number, if known or date of birth
- ❖ Birth Certificate (if not enrolled)
- ❖ Name of funeral home/Mortuary
- ❖ Name and telephone number of appointed representative for the deceased

## **WHAT DOCUMENTS ARE NEEDED FOR FUNERAL COSTS TO BE PAID?**

The following documents shall be submitted prior to any disbursement:

- ❖ An application for Burial Assistance Program (provided by the Social Services Coordinator)
- ❖ Copy of the Death or Birth Certificate
- ❖ Itemized invoice from funeral home/Mortuary

## **WHO IS THE DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE?**

The designated representative is the person accepting legal and fiscal responsibility of the deceased, the person named in a living will, health care directive, or person making the funeral arrangements.

## **HOW IS PAYMENT MADE?**

Upon receipt of the Death Certificate and itemized invoice of funeral/mortuary expenses, payment is made directly to the chosen funeral home/Mortuary. The Bishop Paiute Tribe shall not reimburse funeral expenses previously paid by family members or legal representative of the deceased.

## **WHAT IF THERE ARE OTHER EXPENSES RELATED TO THE FUNERAL?**

- ❖ Any unused amounts shall not be transferable or paid to family or the representative of the deceased.
- ❖ The Bishop Paiute Tribe shall not have any monetary responsibility/obligation for any costs in excess of the benefits provided in this policy. No Exceptions.

The Bishop Paiute Tribal Council may, at its sole discretion and without further notice to Tribal Members, amend or terminate the Burial Assistance Program and Policy.

Any amendments to this Burial Assistance Program and Policy shall be approved by the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council.

Please sign and date below indicating that you have read the Bishop Paiute Tribal Burial Assistance Program Policy and fully understand and agree to the terms of the agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE  
BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY  
APPLICATION FOR FUNERAL HOME EXPENSES**

**Deceased and Representative Information**

Name of deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden or other names: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(or proof of eligibility for enrollment attached)

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital or Funeral Home Verification must be  
received by the Social Services Coordinator at the  
time of this application.

Designated Representative of Deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s): Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Funeral Home/Mortuary Information**

Name of Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home Director: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
**For Office Use Only**

Original Death Certificate Received Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of Death Certificate to Enrollment Department Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Processed by Social Services Coordinator:

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



**BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE  
BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY**

**APPLICATION FOR CRY DANCE**

Name of Primary Point of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s): Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

Address and Date of Cry Dance: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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**For Office Use Only**

Processed by Maintenance Department:

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

BI Burial Policy 1112V2 Revised and Approved 112912

## ASSISTANCE PROCESS

1. Notify Enrollment Office that a tribal member has passed.
2. Request an application for burial assistance and/or Cry Dance assistance.
3. Submit application and all documents required.
4. Enrollment will coordinate with Public Works and Maintenance Dept. for set up and family needs for Cry Dance and burial.
5. Provide the Enrollment Office of measurements for box, if needed, to be given to the Maintenance Dept. for completion.
6. Once the Death Certificate is received, payment will be made to the Mortuary of choice.

## INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION

- Name of Deceased
- Date of Death
- Birth Certificate (if not enrolled)
- Name of Funeral Home/ Mortuary
- Tribal Membership Number
- Family Point of Contact

## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR PAYMENT

- Burial Assistance Application
  - Itemized Invoice
  - Original Death Certificate
- Notice will be sent to the Mortuary with the payment and to the family stating payment was made.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Local Venue (s):

Bishop Barlow Gym  
Jeff Romero, OVCDC TANF  
390 North Barlow Lane  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-5107

Bishop Tribal Community Center  
Receptionist, Bishop Paiute Tribe  
405 North Barlow Lane  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-3584

### Mortuary:

Brune Mortuary  
325 West Elm Street  
Bishop, CA 93514  
(760) 873-4266 phone  
(760) 873-1137 fax

### VFW Contact

Ben Charley  
(760) 873-7292

### Bishop Maintenance

Maintenance Supervisor  
(760) 920-5169 & (760) 873-3584

### Public Works Department

(760) 873-6638

### BITC Donation Committee

Val Spoonhunter/ Earleen Williams  
(760) 873-3584

### Paiute Palace Casino

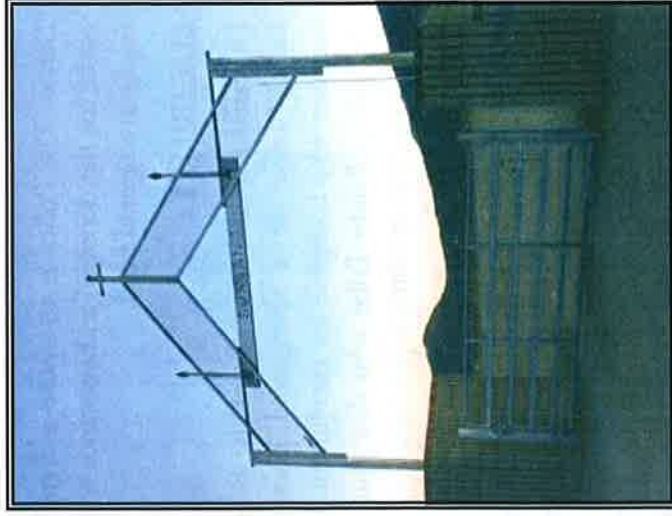
(760) 873-4150

### Cry Dance Singers:

Monty Bengochia  
(760) 937-1790

Bishop Tribal Council  
(760) 873-3584

# BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



## BISHOP PAIUTE TRIBE Enrollment Department

50 Tu Su Lane, Bishop, CA 93514

760-873-3584 ext.258 –phone  
760-873-4143 – fax



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## BURIAL POLICY

The Burial Assistance Program Policy is established by the Bishop Paiute Tribal Council to provide financial assistance toward funeral costs and/or a traditional Cry Dance. The Policy is to assure a dignified burial for the deceased and assistance to the family in a time of need.

## ELIGIBILITY

Deceased enrolled members of the Bishop Paiute Tribe or a recognized deceased member who is eligible for enrollment into the Bishop Paiute Tribe who dies prior to completing the enrollment process.

## MAXIMUM BENEFIT

The Bishop Paiute Tribe Burial Assistance Program will pay directly to the funeral home/ Mortuary of choice, a maximum of \$4,500.00 for funeral related costs. The family or representative of the deceased is responsible for any costs over \$4,500.00.

Funeral home services and expenses offered by the identified funeral home/ Mortuary with costs as established by the Mortuary's Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Selected and Cry Dance are eligible services for payment through the Burial Assistance Program.

The payment is made directly to the funeral

home/ mortuary. If there is money remaining from the \$4,500.00, it will not be credited to another tribal member or given to the family in the form of a check or credit.

Separate from the \$4,500.00, the Tribe will assist in building a box for the casket, providing casket lowering equipment, digging the grave, if at the Sunland Cemetery, and the set up of the Cry Dance.

## CRY DANCE REQUEST

Families that request for a Cry Dance set-up will need to have an area selected for set up. Maintenance will provide the tarps and chairs for set-up. If wood is available, then wood will be provided for the fire. Some assistance will be given to set up the dance area; but maintenance will not be responsible for clearing fields, cleaning yards, pulling stumps or dumping trash and debris.

It is the family's responsibility to notify the Cry Dance singers and ask for their assistance in singing.

## CRY DANCE TRADITION

The tradition of the Cry Dance signifies sending off the deceased in a good way. Family normally gathers with friends to support each other and acknowledge the deceased. Each step that is danced, counterclockwise, represents the "stomping out of their footsteps" the deceased walked while they were living.

The Cry Dance usually begins at sundown and the dancing lasts until midnight. When the last song is sung, all of the clothing/ belongings of the deceased are burned. If there is going to be a final graveside Cry Dance, some belongings are put aside for the final burn. Traditionally all belongings are burned.

A female family member is expected to lead out the dancers with close family following, when the singing begins. The first round is for family. After the first round, friends and such may join in. Each person dancing will carry a piece of the deceased belongings tied in a knot. The movements of the dancers follow the singers movements.

During the night of dancing, it is acceptable to have coffee and drinks, but no eating. Eating is done after the final song is sung and after the clothing/ belongings have been burned. The feed is usually potluck style with everyone contributing a dish.

## HOW TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION

1. **IN PERSON:**  
**BISHOP TRIBAL OFFICE**  
**50 TU SU LANE, BISHOP,**  
**CA 93514**
2. **ONLINE:**  
**BISHOP TRIBAL WEBSITE**  
**WWW.BISHOPPAIUTE.ORG**
3. **CALL:**  
**(760) 873-3584**