

OKLAHOMA PUBLICATION GIVEN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

From Okla. Dept. of Human Services

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS) publication, *Adopt a Black Child: One Church, One Child*, has been honored as a notable state publication by the *Journal of Government Information*. The October 1994 booklet featured 26 children who were available for adoption.

"One Church, One Child" is a nationally recognized adoptions recruitment program that was founded in 1980. It was designed to find parents for African-American children who need permanent homes. "One Church, One Child of Oklahoma" is sponsored by DHS in partnership with a statewide Ministerial Advisory Council in coop-

eration with the Urban League affiliates in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

Churches in the African-American community are challenged by the "One Church, One Child" program to recruit, from their members, at least one family to adopt or foster a needy African-American child or set of siblings. Some of these children have special needs, but all of the children are truly unique and need a loving, single-parent, racially mixed, or black family to take them into their homes and hearts.

The booklet introduced the children, who range in ages from infants to teens with photographs and information about their backgrounds, interests, aptitudes and personalities.

"All of these children can benefit so much from the love and attention of a dedicated family or single adult," says Jane Morgan of the DHS Adoption Services Program. "We work very hard at matching children in DHS custody with families because a good placement is a lifetime investment for all concerned."

"Out of the 26 children promoted in October of 1994, 14 children have found really good homes through this program," says Morgan. "Interest from the African-American community has been terrific. But there were more than 1,000 children in DHS custody who need adoptive families. We continually need to be recruiting families who can provide a loving home for these children."

"It is fair to judge peoples by the rights they will sacrifice most for."

Clarence Day

Indian, continued from page 2

Court made a decision stating that if the adoptions were voluntary, the Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Act did not apply. He added that the issue was a subject the committee could not avoid. "We have a tremendous Indian population, where some of the Nations are based. This question comes up a lot."

On the other hand, Deer, with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, said the federal legislation would set the provisions of the Act back 30 years and destroy all the progress Indian tribes have made in protecting their children.

At this time, the federal House Rules Committee will allow amendments to the resolution. This will provide an opportunity for an amendment to HR3268 to be introduced which will delete any reference to amending the Indian Child Welfare Act.

"It is very devastating for an Indian child to grow up in a non-Indian environment. An Indian child must know, feel and experience his culture. Isolated hardship stories cited by the Congress about non-Indian adoptive parents should not form the basis for an amendment to the Indian Child Welfare Act. An amendment should be considered only after the proper consultation with Indian tribal governments has occurred," Deer explained.

OU SUMMER PROGRAM OFFERED TO GIFTED, TALENTED YOUTH

From Univ. of Oklahoma

■(NORMAN) A week long intensive program for academically gifted and talented youth who have completed grades five, six, and seven will be offered this summer by the University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education.

"Horizons Unlimited," slated July 14 through the 19 on the OU Norman campus, is designed to stimulate academically superior students with intellectual challenges and exciting learning experiences.

Students participate in two courses—one class each morning and afternoon. In addition to classroom time, students will have an opportunity to participate in cultural and recreational activities planned for the evenings. Students may live on campus in a university residence hall or commute from home.

To be considered for the program, students must have been identified by their school for participation in a gifted program; be recommended by parents or teachers and score 130 or above on an individual intelligence test; or exhibit outstanding abilities in such areas as visual and performing arts, creative writing or leadership.

Interested students must also submit a typed application by June 14. For an application form or for more information on Horizons Unlimited, call Pre-collegiate Programs, a department of the OU College of Continuing Education, at (405) 325-6897.



"Now, you're sure, a sports scholarship pays more than a science one? Cause I really had fun on that science project."