



**Muaisa Hale Pule**  
**NEW HAVEN NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH**  
*Individual Spiritual Adoption*



New Haven Native American Church's Constitution limits membership in the Church to those who have been duly adopted by the President of the Church. This adoption is an ancient principle and Ceremony called "Making Relations." The Ceremony involves two parts:

- 1) the first of which you perform at Muaisa Hale Pule or another suitable location;
- 2) the second of which the President of the Church performs at his location.

The Church allows individuals to exercise the freedom the Creator has given them to follow the dictates of religion according to how they feel directed by the Spirit. However, the Church *does* restrict membership to individuals at the age of accountability, that age being eight years old, and to those who feel called by the Creator to become a Healer, which are also called Medicine Men and Medicine Women. To be established as a Healer/Medicine Person, one must place themselves in one or more of the categories below.

1. ***As a Healer of people or animals.*** These are Medicine Men and Women of the Church whose focus is in relieving the suffering of people or animals.
2. ***As a Healer of the family unit.*** These are Medicine Men and Women of the Church who focus their ceremonial healing in family issues and in healing the values of family life.
3. ***As a Healer of the community.*** These are Medicine Men and Women of the Church whose focus is more toward building up the Chapters, Communities, and so forth.
4. ***As a Healer of Society.*** These are Medicine Men and Women of the Church that focus on repairing social systems or situations.
5. ***As a Healer of the Planet.*** These are Medicine Men and Women of the Church whose focus is on restoring sustainable care of our Earth Mother and to educate others in the responsible use of her resources.

Membership in the New Haven Native American Church is permanent, meaning once an individual is a member of the Church Family, they can only be removed by their own personal request or by a serious infraction against the Church's Constitution or Ethical Code of Conduct, each of which is available for review at [www.newhavennaac.org](http://www.newhavennaac.org). This practice of "Making Relations" or "Spiritual Adoption" is an ancient religious practice and should be taken seriously. This is the same principle that that Chief Joseph became Chief of the Nez Perce People, even though by today's accepted or legal standards, he could not be considered Nez Perce. Because of this ancient practice, Chief Joseph's signature was accepted as authoritative by the United States Federal Government in the Nez Perce Treaty.

The Native American Church has been recognized by the High Court as an "other organized group or community" of Indians and therefore all members of the Native American Church are legally defined as "Indians" even though they may not be enrolled members or recognized by any Tribe or Band. Also the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states in Article 33 section one, "Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions."

There are many benefits, including legal ones, in becoming Spiritually Adopted, and any person of any ethnic background may request adoption if they have sincerity of belief. To be a "Member of Good Standing", one must be willing to make the following Declarations of Intention, as Covenant Obligations, which are described in the following:

***Declarations:***

- 1. It is my belief that Natural Medicine is a part of my established freedom to practice my Religion.*
- 2. I will follow the practice of "First, Do Good" and I will, to the best of my ability, make this the guiding practice of my Healing Ministry.*
- 3. For my development as a Healing Minister, I will faithfully study traditional healing methods and work to become educated in the various materials suggested by the President of the New Haven Native American Church.*
- 4. I will donate from my surplus, as the Spirit directs, to the Church so that the Ministry of the Church may move forward and become fully established in all areas of the world. (The Church does not have a paid clergy so all donations go to building up the Church and giving greater support to its members.)*
- 5. I will strive to establish a Chapter in my area, if none is already present, and I will dedicate time, talent and resources, as suggested to me by the Spirit, to forward the purpose of that Chapter.*

Covenant Obligations are the foundation of furthering the New Haven Native American Church's Ministry and Healing the World depends upon your faithfulness. If you feel that you can be true to the Declarations and can place yourself in at least one category, then you may request Spiritual Adoption from NHNAC.

**Muaisa Hale Pule**

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## Formal Request for Spiritual Adoption by the Principle Medicine Chief of the New Haven Native American Church

Whereas: the New Haven Native American Church is the "Spiritual Family" of the President of the Church, through the ancient principle of "Making Relations", which the Church also calls "Spiritual Adoption", and it is through this religious practice that I request Spiritual Adoption by the President of the Church, and;

Therefore: By this request I state that (1) Natural Healing is a part of my Spiritual Orientation; (2) I will live by the practice of "Do Only Good"; (3) I will faithfully study the spiritual and traditional healing materials put out by the New Haven Native American Church, or their assigned, and such education will be under the direction of the President of the Church, by and through means he/she sees fit, and which is upheld by the Constitution and the Church's Code of Ethics; (4) in accordance with the Constitution of the Church, I covenant to make donations from out of my surplus, so that my gift may assist in supporting the programs of the Church, in whatever amount my stewardship allows and Spirit directs to me as appropriate to my situation in life. My offerings are free-will donations given in the spirit of the Sacred Giveaway which is bona fide Ceremony and Traditional Practice of the New Haven Native American Church; (5) I will strive to establish a Chapter in my area, if no Chapter already exists here, and/or I will dedicate time, talent and resources, as dictated by the Creator to me, to developing and forwarding the work of my local Chapter.

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

**I understand that the New Haven Native American Church allows individuals to exercise the freedom the Creator has given them to follow the dictates of religion according to how they feel directed by the Spirit.** I also understand that this is not "Tribal Adoption" for purposes of commerce or taxation. It is the first step in the Ceremony of "Making Relations" which the Church calls "Spiritual Adoption" and it is the only manner in which a person may become a Member of the Church.

Information (*Please print carefully and legibly*): Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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

Due to the large demand for Spiritual Adoption, all adoption forms that include the expenses of the adoption process will be automatically moved to the front of the adoption list. If you are enrolled in a certification program, these may have already been included. Thank you for assisting in the vision.

Please return your Request for Spiritual Adoption to:



**New Haven N.A.C.**  
**% Muaisa Hale Pule**  
**P.O. Box 2334**  
**Kealakekua, HI 96750**  
**USA**

Feel free to include any personal correspondence to allow us to understand you and better assist you in the Sacred Healing Way.