Lakota Oyate Kí
(Native American Culture Club)

**Mission Statement:**

Lakota Oyate Kí allows its members who are interested in Native American Culture the opportunity to involve themselves in Traditional Indian Practices and Crafts.

Our Goal is to provide Native Member(s) an opportunity to stay abreast of Native American concerns in the community through the involvement of outside guests, and provide a forum where teachings, religious concepts and traditional values of Native People to be used as a rehabilitative tool.

We inform new members that we never gain new knowledge or new experience unless we are willing to take risks. It’s good to be curious; also, it pays to be cautious. To walk in balance is the path for them to find new opportunities to seek new understanding. We try to convey that down each of these roadways are experiences from which we will learn. Experience plus action is the beginning of knowledge.

To help us accomplish positive change in the Native American community, both behind the Walls of this prison and society-at-large, some of the outside organizations that the Lakota Club works with is, Red Lodge Transitional Services, Native American Youth Association, Partnership For Safety & Justice, and, Oregon C.U.R.E.

For those individuals who are truly seeking change in their life, some of the classes and programs that we offer them are The Red Road To Wellbriety, The Talking Circle, The Art & Beading Program, The Sweat Lodge Ceremony, and, an At-Risk Youth Speaking Panel. The primary purpose in offering these programs and classes is to afford them a different environment where they can learn new life-building skills, which will allow them the opportunity to take their lives in a positive direction.

It is our hope that when each and every Native American Inmate leaves this prison, they will return to their Native American Communities and, Society-at-Large, law abiding and productive members of their communities.