

# INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS COMMUNICATIONS

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## **Indianapolis Indians to Begin Partnership with Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana**

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Indians today announced the club is partnering with the Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana. The partnership will include a land acknowledgement, recognition of Miami veterans during Native American Heritage Night at Victory Field, support of the Miami scholarship program and fan educational opportunities. The team's name, which has been the Indianapolis Indians since 1902, will remain the same during the 2023 and 2024 seasons as the organization explores and activates programs with the Miami.

"We are grateful to the Indianapolis Indians for the opportunity to share our story with Hoosiers throughout central Indiana," said Brian Buchanan, Chief of the Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana. "When the history of Indiana is studied, the major influence of Native American people is seen in the names of Indiana cities, state parks, rivers, food, celebrations and other cultural points of interest. We have encouraged the team to remain the Indianapolis Indians."

"We are pleased to work with the Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana to help educate our fans about the rich history and culture of its tribe," said Bruce Schumacher, Indianapolis Indians Chairman and CEO. "We look forward to using our platform to educate our fans by acknowledging, uplifting and honoring those upon whose ancestral lands Victory Field is built. We are excited to highlight the Miami Nation and influence of Native American people throughout our state, which means 'land of the Indians' and city, which means 'city of Indians' at Victory Field this season."

According to the Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana, one of the 100 largest tribes in the United States, it is the only continuously functioning, treaty-recognized tribe in the country that is not considered a tribe by the federal government. Federal recognition efforts continue today as tribal officials work on state and national levels to regain the respect and status the Miami of Indiana deserves.

### **About the Indianapolis Indians**

The [Indianapolis Indians](http://IndianapolisIndians.com) are the professional Triple-A baseball club affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates. In continuous operation since 1902, the organization believes in creating affordable and memorable experiences for fans so they can grow closer together with family, friends, and the community through the game of baseball. The Indians play their home games at Victory Field, a 13,750-seat ballpark located in downtown Indianapolis and White River State Park. The venue opened in 1996 and has received numerous national accolades as one of the best minor league ballparks in the United States. The team has led Minor League Baseball in combined total attendance over the past 12 seasons. In 2018, the organization was recognized as Ballpark Digest Team of the Year. It was also named a 2019 Best Places to work by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce.

### **About the Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana**

The Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana is a Native American tribe located in Indiana which was part of our original homelands. We were once one tribe with the present-day Miami Tribe of Oklahoma but became two separate tribes when the United States Government removed the Miami from Indiana, but by treaty, allowed some clans of the tribe to remain in Indiana, thus creating two Miami Tribes. The Tribe members who were removed from Indiana would at first be removed to Kansas only to be removed again to their present location in Oklahoma. The Indiana Miami signed an 1854 treaty with the US government making us the only tribe to be recognized by the government in the State of Indiana post removal. However, only 45 years later the federal recognition that the Indiana Miami possessed was illegally taken by the government. To learn more visit [www.miamiindians.org/](http://www.miamiindians.org/).

