

**Education Committee
Career Services
December 2021 Monthly Report
Diane Kelley, Executive Director**

Vocational Rehabilitation

The Vocational Rehabilitation program had 7 individuals graduate this December.

- Connors State College
 - Nursing Degree
- Northeastern State University
 - Bachelor Degree in Psychology
 - Bachelor Degree in Computer Science
 - This graduate has accepted a job at NSU as a Programmer/Analyst and is expected to begin 01/04/22
- Oklahoma State University
 - Bachelor Degree in Bio Systems Engineer
- Rogers State University
 - Bachelor Degree in Accounting
- Tri County Vo-Tech Claremore
 - Nursing
- University of Arkansas
 - Bachelor Degree in Biology

Alternative Education, Career Skills, and Testing

Alternative Education has added a new Tahlequah Adult Education Teacher, Barbara Peevyhouse. She will assist with expanding our current virtual classroom services by developing interactive Google Classrooms for our four GED subjects. Students will be able to learn and interact with Adult Education staff even if they are unable to attend class in person.

Adult Education has also an additional Adult Education Teacher in Pryor to offer full time GED services in the Pryor area and expand our Business Technology Course into the Pryor Area. The business technology curriculum in Tahlequah has been expanded to include a Business Math element that Career Services clients can be certified in to assist in building their employability. These supplemental classes will include skills necessary for our Business Technology students to understand basic Business Math elements, fundamentals of accounting skills, and interpreting statistical data.

Upcoming Program Initiatives

The Alternative Education department is developing a Technical Writing component to incorporate into our Business Technology curriculum. This will include developing appropriate vocabulary for administrative clerical staff and drafting professional correspondence.

Alternative Education is also initiating evening classes at the Bell School starting January 10th, 2022. Students will have the ability to initiate services, attend classes, and work through online

GED preparation programs. Course materials will also be provided for take home study when students are unable to attend classes or utilize virtual classrooms.

In an effort to address the transportation employment barrier that many of our Career Services participants have, preparation to develop an adult Driver's Education program continues, which will pilot in Tahlequah.

Career Skills

11 Career Skills Classes: 82 Completions

22 Individual resumes completed for Career Services Clients and other referrals

Testing Services

Total Tests Administered: 121

<u>Pearson VUE</u>	Tests Administered	<u>HiSET</u>	Tests Administered
Tahlequah	38	Pryor	1
Pryor	47	Tahlequah	3
Stilwell	13		
Sallisaw	7	<u>MOS</u>	
		Tahlequah	12

Talking Leaves Jobs Corps

Talking Leaves recently participated in the quarterly Oklahoma Job Corps Coalition meeting with Guthrie Job Corps and Tulsa Job Corps. The Oklahoma Job Corps Coalition is planning a meeting at the Oklahoma State Capitol in March 2022 to meet the candidates running for the Governor's office.

Talking Leaves continues to provide an accredited High School program along with vocational training which provide industry recognized credentials. Ms. Kim Wedel is the Superintendent for the Oklahoma Job Corps Academy.

The Career Training program utilizes hybrid classrooms – both virtual and in-person students. Students are adapting to changes within virtual learning with the new tools on google platform. Teachers are receiving professional development to assist students who may be struggling with technology. Teachers are also using 'NewsELA' website to increase a student's reading proficiency level. Good and consistent collaboration is taking place with instructors, ensuring applied academics is planned and executed well.

Interesting Evening Weekend Studies activities are planned for student engagement and retention.

STEM projects are planned with TABE Math & BCT students to allow BCT students an opportunity to display proficiency in Math, Science, Education and Math.

Driver's Education continues to take place on Center. Students utilize the Driving Simulator to reached proficiency, then they are allowed road time.

The Outreach Admissions Counselors continue to take applications for enrollment. Anyone interested in applying may take a Center tour at <https://talkingleaves.jobcorps.gov/>

Vocational Programs

Business Tech

MOS 2016 Certifications received by Business Tech Students:

- Access: 1
- Outlook: 1
- PowerPoint: 1

One Business Tech Student Extended on Full-Time Practicum and began working with Facilities Management at the new Cherokee Nation Outpatient Health Center on 10/13/2021. After receiving a "Letter of Intent to Hire" on 11/29/2021, practicum was extended to accommodate the timeline for Human Resources to complete the hiring process.

Six New Business Tech Students continuing to do well at the following locations:

- Kansas: 1
- Tahlequah: 4
- Stilwell: 1

Fifteen Business Tech Students expected to attend Life/Career Skills Training on 12/20/21.

Surg Tech

Five Surg Tech Students are on track to start Clinicals in February in area hospitals and surgery centers in AR and OK:

RN Scholarship Program

One Graduate Nursing Student began RN Residency on August 17th in ER at Hastings Hospital, is currently in the hiring process, and will continuing in the RN Residency Program until hired full time.

Nine new nursing students passed the Fall 2021 semester and are continuing on to Spring 2022:

- Connors State College: 7
- ATU: 1
- Northeastern Oklahoma A&M: 1

Four nursing students graduated Fall 2021 and will be entering the RN Residency Program at Hastings Hospital:

- Connors: 3
- OSU-IT: 1

One Fall 2021 graduate received the Florence Nightingale Award; the highest award in Nursing:

- Wallace from Welling, Connors State College

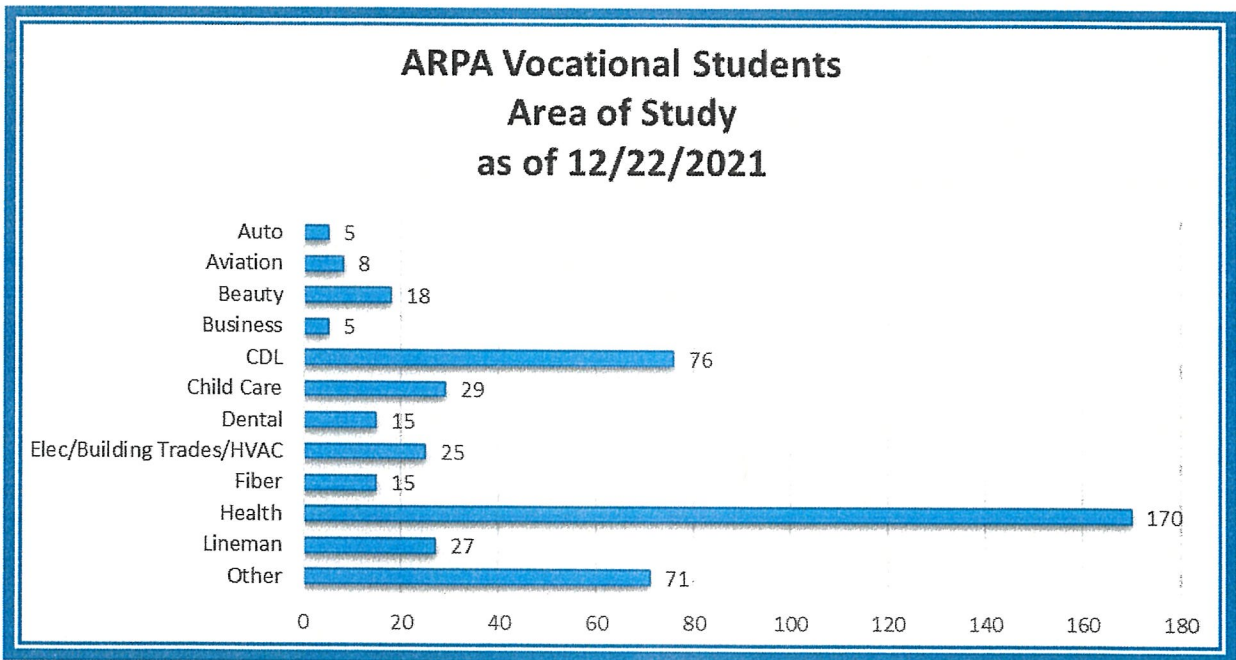
Five New Nursing Students are on track to start Spring 2022 Semester in January at the following schools:

- OSU-IT: 1
- Tulsa Community College: 1
- Connors State College: 3

ARPA Funded Vocational Training

ARPA Totals (vocational training only, program to date as of 12/22/2021)

- 464 Students



College Resource Center

Scholarship Funding for Spring 2022 has begun for the Cherokee Nation Concurrent Enrollment, Undergraduate, and Graduate scholarship programs.

Break Down by Program:

Concurrent Enrollment	53 total applications
Missing Documents	21
Denied	5
Approved	27
Undergraduate	20 total applications
Missing Documents	9
Approved	11
Graduate	5 total applications
Missing Documents	1
Approved	4

Outreach & Presentations:

November Events:

11/29/21: Delivered scholarship flyer packets to Tulsa County Schools:

- Broken Arrow High School
- Owasso High School
- Union High School
- Charles Page High School
- Collinsville High School
- Berryhill High School
- Skiatook High School

11/30/21: Delivered scholarship flyer packets to Osage County Schools:

- Wynona High School
- Pawhuska High School
- Hominy High School

- Barnsdall High School
- Woodland High School

December:

12/2/21: Delivered scholarship flyer packets to Osage/Washington County Schools:

- Caney Valley High School (also met with counselor)
- Dewey High School
- Prue High School
- Copan High School
- Bartlesville High School

12/6/21: Delivered scholarship flyer packets to Nowata/Rogers County Schools:

- Nowata High School
- Claremore High School
- Foyil High School
- Chelsea High School
- Inola High School

12/7/21: Delivered scholarship flyer packets to Rogers County Schools:

- Oologah High School
- Verdigris High School
- Catoosa High School

12/7/21: Delivered pediatric masks to the following schools:

- Claremore Public Schools Administration
- Catoosa Public Schools Administration
- Oologah Public Schools Administration
- Verdigris Public Schools Administration

12/9/21:

- WebEx meeting with Travis Owens and Donna Tinnin with Cultural Tourism for May Webinar discussion/outline prep.
- WebEx Webinar Event with University of North Alabama- 3 PM CST
 - An estimation of 10 participants

12/10/21: Delivered scholarship flyer packets to Craig County Schools:

- Vinita High School
- Bluejacket High School
- Welch High School

Fall 2021 Stole Report:

The Cherokee Nation College Resource Center rewards students striving to complete continuing education goals and academic success. The Stole program is available for college students who are currently graduating from a college or university and are Cherokee Nation citizens. The program offers the

opportunity to receive graduation stoles for one Associate (Art, Science or Applied Science –Nursing), Bachelors, Masters or Doctoral Degree. Under this program citizens will receive one graduation stole per degree level.

Associate – 7
 Bachelors – 74
 Masters – 26
 Doctorate – 2
 Faculty – 0

Students on Cherokee Nation Scholarship Programs receiving stoles – 80
 Students not on Cherokee Nation Scholarship Programs receiving stoles – 29

Total: 109

Future Plans:

- CRC staff will be attending the Cherokee Nation Passport Classes for December/January
- 12/14/21: Deliveries to Ottawa County Schools
- 12/15/21: Deliveries to Delaware/Mayes County Schools
- 12/17/21: Deliveries to Sequoyah County Schools
- 1/12/21: WebEx with The Cobell Scholarship Program, 6 PM CST, WebEx.

January 2022

1/15/2022 – Spring 2022 renewal deadline for the Cherokee Nation Concurrent Enrollment, Undergraduate, and Graduate Scholarship programs.

Cultural Resource Outreach

	Contacts	Schools	Events	Districts Served	Monthly Total	Year to Date
Outreach	6,695	18	25	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, At-large	October 1,345 Nov 6,695	8,143
STEM	46	6	10	2, 5, 6, 7, 10, At large		46
TOTAL	6,741	24	35			8,189

- Schools served in November include CN Immersion School, Grove, Pryor, Grand View, Keys, Tahlequah, Foyil, Claremore, Cleveland, OK, Cleveland, MO, US State Department, Carl Albert State College, OSU Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa campus.

- Other outreach events include the US State Department, two at-large CCO meetings (Washington, DC and Los Angeles), Shiloh Museum, Springdale, AR and the Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Museum, OKC.
- One cancellation with the Oklahoma Tribal Celebration at the Gathering Place in Tulsa
- History and Preservation Office is working with Osiyo TV, Film Office, CN Communications, CN Advisory Committee on History and Culture, US Marshals Museum, Goingsnake Tragedy Symposium, and the Sequoyah National Research Center.

December 2021 Events

Storytelling/ Cultural Presentation (*indicates virtual)

- December 1 Home School, Maryland*
Tulsa OSU Medical School (in person and virtual)
- December 2 Sequoyah High School
- December 3 Sequoyah High School
- December 8 Sequoyah High School*
Edison School, Tulsa*
- December 9, Edison School, Tulsa*
- December 15 Sequoyah High School *
Tulsa Cherokee Alliance*

Activity	November	YTD
# of classrooms/sites	69 classrooms 21 sites	69 classrooms 21 sites
# of parent meetings conducted	2 Meetings Conducted	7 Conducted
# of site visits by HS/ECU staff	153 Site Visits	550 Conducted
# of PD hours completed	38 hours offered	120.50 hours offered
CC Expenditures - Travel	\$-0-	\$3,446.42

Accomplishments:

- 1) The ECU held the 28th Annual Early Childhood Conference. It was a huge success in several ways; the main one being everyone tested negative for Covid when we returned. The vaccinated staff did an outstanding job in keeping each other safe for the two and half day event while gaining 19 hours of training.
- 2) The ECU also held the annual sock drive for seniors and received 800 pairs to distribute in our service area. The ECU is committed to this annual drive to in an effort to remember our seniors.

- 3) The ECU conference is our opportunity to recognize a few early childhood champions. First, the 2021 Child Advocate of the Year was Dr. David Gahn, Medical Director at Hastings Hospital. Dr. Gahn has been the go to person for all the ECU staff and families for guidance and most of all continued support through the pandemic. It was our honor to recognize him for his constant dedication and commitment to our wellbeing as well as the many hats he wears so dutifully. The Leader, Accomplishment, Motivational Professional (LAMP) recognize this year is Jerome Factor. Jerome has been an Early Head Start teacher for 22 years and is considered a role model by his peers. Jerome has many credentials and numerous hours of training that prepares him to work effectively with children and families. We also celebrated the years of service for all staff that have been at the ECU for five, ten, fifteen, twenty, thirty and thirty five years. There was one Head Start Lead Teacher, Patsy Steeley at Shady Grove that completed 35 years in the ECU. The thirty years of outstanding service are Karen Moss, teacher at Shady Grove and Elaine Ramsey, Center Operations Specialist, who works with the Public schools. It was a great time for all even with the very detailed and monitored protocol precautions.
- 4) Two new staff joined the ECU this month. We hoped for more; however, these two are great additions to the program family. Several selections are pending background checks and waiting patiently on a job offer.

New Initiatives:

- 1) The Family and Child Experience Survey (FACES) project will begin soon with the public schools involved in the study. The FACES team will interview parents and teaches as to their experience thus far with the Head Start program and study what the trends are for the family needs and experiences are with the comprehensive services. The continued Family and Child Experience Survey will be a five-year project.
- 2) There are three active groups in the ECU that keep the morale and interest level up with frontline staff and managers. The Staff Wellness committee was recently initiated to boost the emotional and physical wellbeing during the Covid-19 times. Staff are very receptive and their response has been positive. The committee changes members to include a well-rounded representation of the staff with the intent to hear their collective recommendations on the needs of the staff. The Rally Commission is geared more for the administrative staff and the committee is comprised of administrative staff. They are an enthusiastic group that also peeps up the managers in their level of stress and tail spinning schedules. The Rally Commission encourages us to stop and support each other. The Blue Ribbon Steering Committee is a local committee of staff from the Children's Village. This cluster site has the most vacancies; therefore, creating an environment of being overwhelmed with each staff having an incredible responsibility to fill the void of so many vacancies. This is actually the feeling at most sites with the numerous vacancies and they are commended for keeping the services ongoing. It is the obsession of the ECU admin staff to continuously find ways to keep the frontline staff well prepared for the many demands of their jobs.
- 3) The web calls with the Policy Council are scheduled bi-weekly until their orientation is completed. January will begin a monthly schedule.

JOM/Johnson O'Malley Program

Activity	December	YTD
	JOM	YTD Total

# of students on program	25,404 (12/15/2021)	25,321
# of schools participating	67	43
# of communities participating	3	
# of special events	3	17
# participants <u>students</u> /adults	18	1751
# of school staff participating	27	17
# of contractors participating	0	0

Accomplishments:

- a. Technical Assistance – Caney Valley
 - b. Worked on claims submitted by schools- Warner, Tulsa, Bluejacket, Locust Grove and Muldrow.
 - c. Worked on Budget Revision on an ongoing basis- Foyil.
 - d. Contacted by phone and e-mail all school contacts reminders for submitting Indian Education Certificates.
 - e. Submitted JOM Application for Locust Grove
 - f. 11/16/2021 – JOM 101 Training – 17 schools represented 20 in attendance, 14 JOM Contacts and 6 IEC Members.
 - g. 11/17 Stickball at Sallisaw Elementary
 - h. 11/18/2021 – Delivered red bags and money cards for Cherokee Challenge Bowl to JOM contacts Belfonte, Gore, Porum, and Warner.
 - i. 11/19/2021 – Delivered money cards to Pryor and Jay for Cherokee Challenge Bowl.
 - j. 11/19 Stickball and Graces at Pryor Elementary
 - k. 11/29/2021 – Cherokee Teacher Enrichment Planning meeting 9 staff participated.
 - l. 11/30/2021 – Passport Training... How to Handle Discipline Issues (formerly Before Little Issues Become Big Issues & What is progressive Discipline)
 - m. 11/30/2021 – JOM 101 Virtual Training 10 schools represented, 18 in attendance, 8 IEC, members, 7 JOM Contacts, 1 school administrator and 2 Osage Nation Education Department.
 - n. 12/1/2021 – Delivered red bags and door prize to Locust Grove, Pryor, Kenwood and Leach.
 - o. 12/1/2021 – Mailed How to Have Successful Meeting and Parliamentary Procedure pamphlets to Grove JOM Contact for the Indian Education Committee.
 - p. 12/2/2021 – JOM 101 Virtual training 10 in attendance 9 school represented, 4 IEC members 6 JOM Contact/Coordinators
 - q. 12 – 6 & 7, 2021 – JOM Field Specialist Coordinator attended the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education Conference. 175 in attendance.
 - r. 12/14/2021 – Delivered money cards to Salina and Pryor JOM Art winners
 - s. 12/15/2021 – Delivered money cards to Maryetta and Stilwell JOM Art winners
 - t. Assisted at Grand View School with Cherokee Marbles.
 - u. Assisted at Keys School with Archery.
 - v. Assisted with Cherokee Baskets at Cherokee Elementary.
 - w. Participated with Rock Your Mock Beading
 - x. Passport Trainings completed by staff
1. 2022 OKJOM Conference Planning
 - o Conference **CANCELLED** March 30 – 31, 2022 WinStar Conference Center & Casino

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

- January 11, 2022 2023 OKJOM Conference Planning meeting

# of students participating	50	60
# of Community services hours completed	0 hours offered	27 Hours Offered

Accomplishments:

- The Youth Vocal Performance lessons are being held weekly.
- The Cherokee Nation Youth Choir is rehearsing weekly, 6 pm, each Tuesday.
- Auditions for the Cherokee Nation Youth Choir are being conducted for the 2022 term.
- 12/4/21-Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council, held their first in-person meeting for their term 2021-22, business items were discussed, teams played a handmade version of Cherokee Jeopardy to learn Cherokee Nation government, history, language and culture. The Tribal Youth Council donated stuffed animals to the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service to help give comfort to children in a crisis situation.
- Miss Cherokee and Jr. Miss Cherokee attended the event for First Lady Dr. Jill Biden and Interior Secretary Deb Haaland's visit to our Immersion School and Cherokee Nation Reservation.

Future Plans and Initiatives:

- Prepare for 2022 Cherokee Nation Choir, first rehearsal in January
- Preparing for Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council monthly programming
- Seeking/Preparing for invitations/requests for Miss Cherokee and/or Jr. Miss Cherokee

December 2021 Events:

- Vocal Performance Lessons, students meet weekly
- Choir Rehearsals, every Tuesday
- 12/21/21-Youth Choir Caroling at Eldercare
- Cherokee Nation Tribal Youth Council Meeting, meets monthly
- Events/Activities for Miss Cherokee and/or Jr. Miss Cherokee.