

# Human Services

Marsha Lamb, Executive Director

## March 2012 Report to the Community Services Committee of the Cherokee Tribal Council

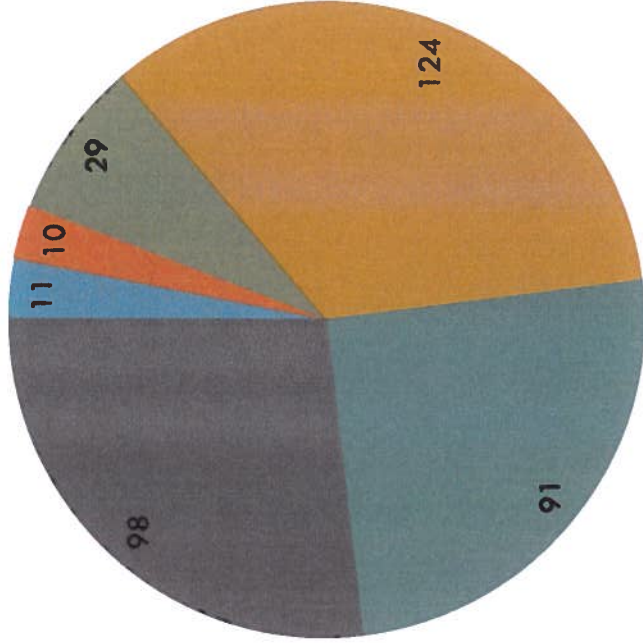
**Special Message from Marsha Lamb:**

*I hope you enjoy the new format of the Human Services Report to the Tribal Council. The new report gives more information about all our programs and demonstrates the impact we have in our communities, both in amount of services provided and economically. In the future we plan to have special reports to highlight various programs and employee credentials & experience, among other things. Please let me know if there is other information you'd like to see.*

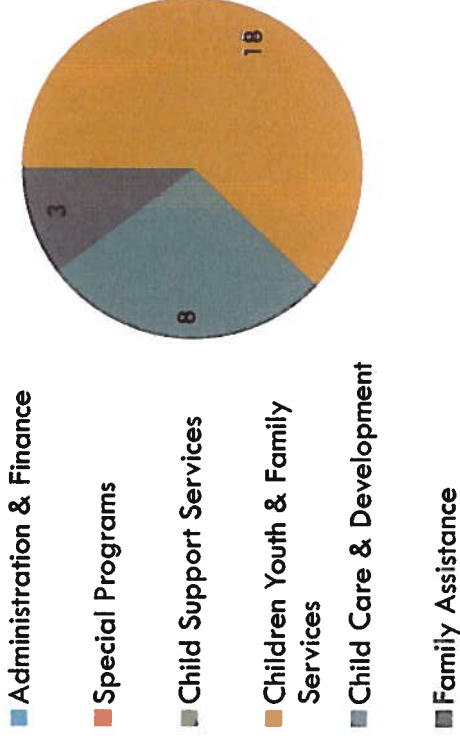
# Human Services Employees

2

**Current Employee Count: 363**



**Vacancies: 29**



## Challenge Area: ICW CAPS Workers

We struggle to find qualified bachelor-level staff and have a high turnover because of the stress and demands of the job.

Competition for qualified Bachelor-level Social Workers is high—it's an in-demand field—competitive salaries are required.

# Income Guideline Comparison

Page 3 & 4 compare eight income guidelines we use to determine eligibility for participation in various programs.

## 2012 DHHS Poverty Guideline 100% Poverty

Household Size	Income Guideline
1*	\$11,170
2	\$15,130
3	\$19,090
4	\$23,050
5	\$27,010
6	\$30,970
7	\$34,930
8	\$38,890

For households of more than 8, add \$3,960 for each additional person.

## 2012 Income Guideline for School Clothing Vouchers 125% Poverty

Household Size	Income Guideline
1*	\$13,963
2	\$18,913**
3	\$23,863
4	\$28,813
5	\$33,763
6	\$38,713
7	\$43,663
8	\$48,613

Income guidelines can be calculated for households up to 12.

## 2012 BIA Burial & Emergency Assistance 150% Poverty (FY'12)

Household Size	Income Guideline
1	\$16,755
2	\$22,695
3	\$28,635
4	\$34,575
5	\$40,515
6	\$46,455
7	\$52,395
8	\$58,355

For households of more than 8, add \$5,940 for each additional person.

## NAHASDA Programs use 60% of HUD's Median Household Income:

Household Size	Income Guideline
1	\$26,950
2	\$30,800
3	\$34,650
4	\$38,500
5	\$41,600
6	\$44,700
7	\$47,750
8	\$50,850

The Rental Assistance Program (RAP) uses 80% HUD's Median Household Income.

**\*\*Earning Cherokee Nation Minimum Wage (\$9/hr), a household of 2 is eligible for the School Clothing Voucher program (\$18,720).**

\*A household of one would be an emancipated minor.

# Income Guideline Comparison

2012 Income Guideline for LIHEAP 150% Poverty (FY'11)	
Household Size	Income Guideline
1	\$16,335
2	\$22,065
3	\$27,795
4	\$33,525
5	\$39,255
6	\$44,985
7	\$50,715
8	\$56,445

For households of more than 8, add \$5,730 for each additional person.

2012 Income Guideline for Tribal Burial Assistance 165% Poverty	
Household Size	Income Guideline
1	\$18,431
2	\$24,965
3	\$31,499
4	\$38,033
5	\$44,567
6	\$51,101
7	\$57,635
8	\$62,090

2012 Income Guideline for Child Care Subsidy Adjusted Gross Income.*	
Household Size	Income Guideline
1	\$25,308
2	\$33,084
3	\$40,872
4	\$48,660
5	\$56,448
6	\$64,236

For each working parent, deduct \$120 of the gross monthly income or deduct 20% of the total gross income to arrive at Adjusted Gross Income.

Families with special needs children may be eligible for special needs deduction.

2012 Income Guideline for Food Distribution Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Income Standard	
Household Size	Income Guideline
1	\$12,660
2	\$16,476
3	\$20,304
4	\$24,216
5	\$28,344
6	\$32,496
7	\$36,312
8	\$40,128

For each additional household member add \$319.

There are deductions for Earned Income, Dependent Care, Medicare Part B & Part D, which must be calculated to find the actual income guideline for each household.

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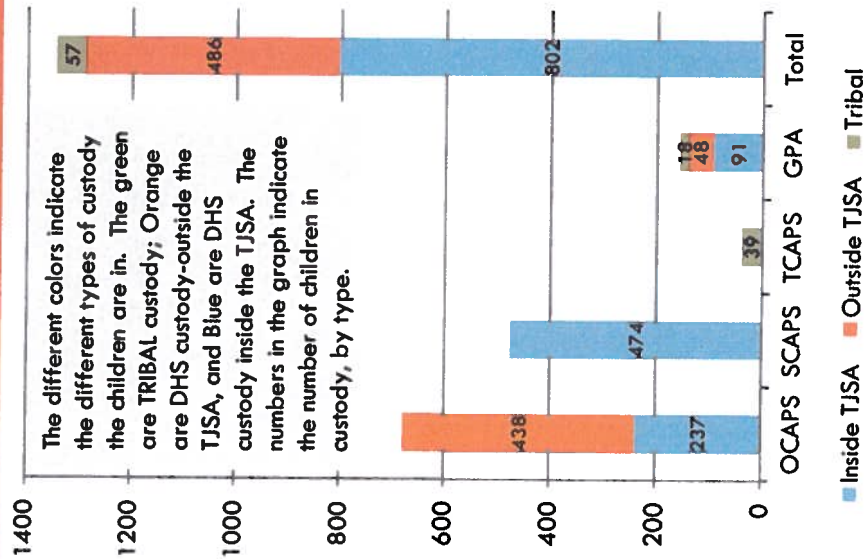
# Department of Children, Youth and Family Services

**Linda Woodward, Director**

# Protecting Children, Families and the Nation

## 1345 Children

with Assigned ICW Workers



## Programs with court interaction

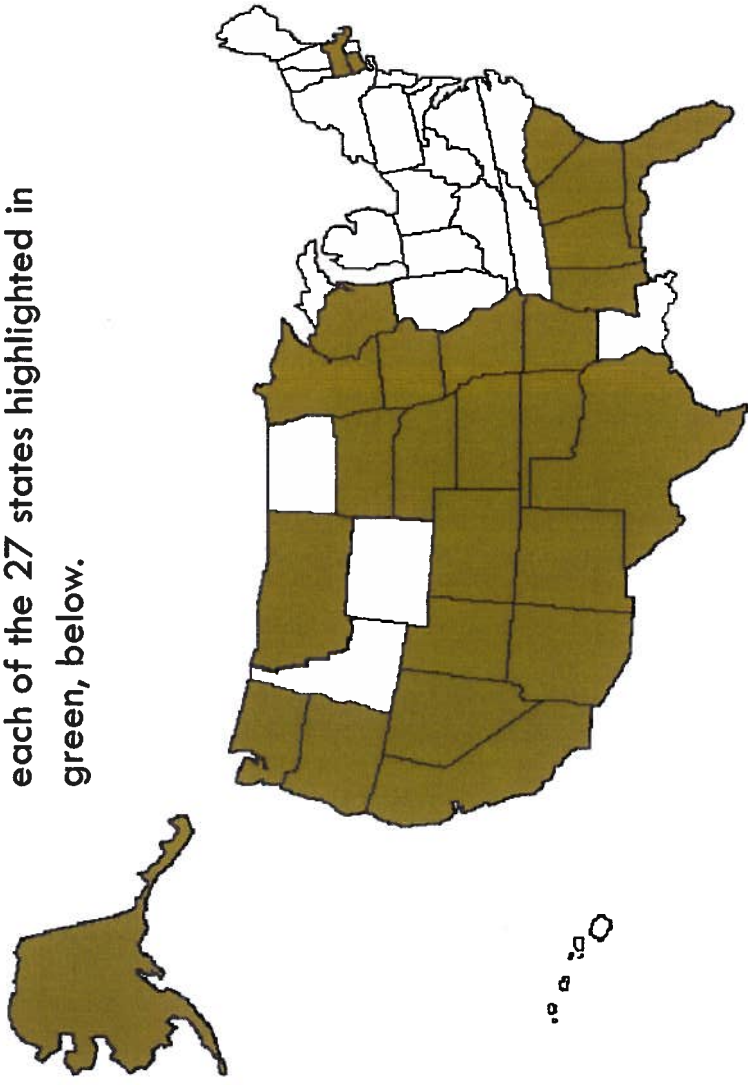
- **OCAPS: Out-Of-District Court Advocacy and Permanency Services**
  - Involved in child welfare cases in non-jurisdiction counties in Oklahoma and all 50 states.
  - Most work is done telephonically or electronically.
  - Emphasis on education about the Indian Child Welfare Act and ensuring States comply with it.
  
- **SCAPS: State Court Advocacy and Permanency Services**
  - Involved in child welfare cases inside the 14 counties of which all or part are within the jurisdiction of the Nation.
  - Emphasis on education about the Indian Child Welfare Act and ensuring OKDHS compliance.
  - Provides services to the families when OKDHS fails to do so.
  
- **TCAPS: Tribal Court Advocacy and Permanency Services**
  - Involved in child welfare cases which are wholly under the jurisdiction of the Nation and OKDHS is not involved.
  - These cases originate on Indian Country or are transferred in from State district courts.
  
- **GPA: Guardianships and Private Adoptions**
  - Involved in voluntary adoptions when the birth parents wish to place their child for adoption.
  - Monitors Guardianships and Private Adoptions for compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act and the best interests of children.
  - Serves Cherokee children and their families all over the United States.
  
- **CPS: Child Protective Services**
  - Receives referrals involving allegations of maltreatment of Cherokee children.
  - Investigates allegations of child maltreatment in Indian Country and co-investigates with DHS in some counties when Cherokee children are involved.

# Exercise of Tribal Sovereignty

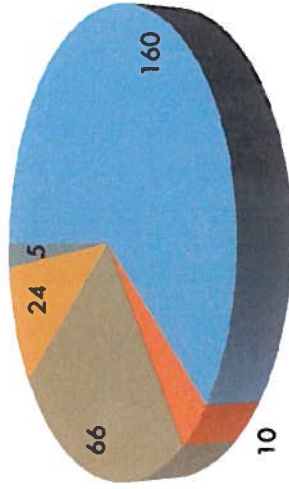
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Indian Child Welfare workers went to court 265 times in March on behalf of Cherokee children and families.

In March, ICW staff worked on cases in each of the 27 states highlighted in green, below.



Court Appearances



■ SCAPS ■ OCAPS ■ GPA ■ CPS

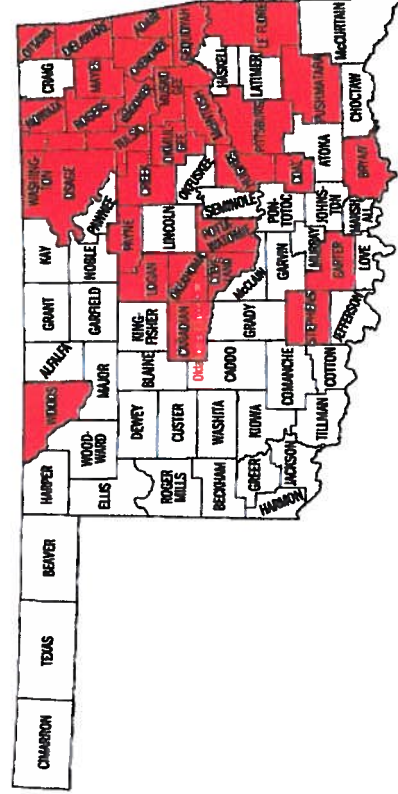
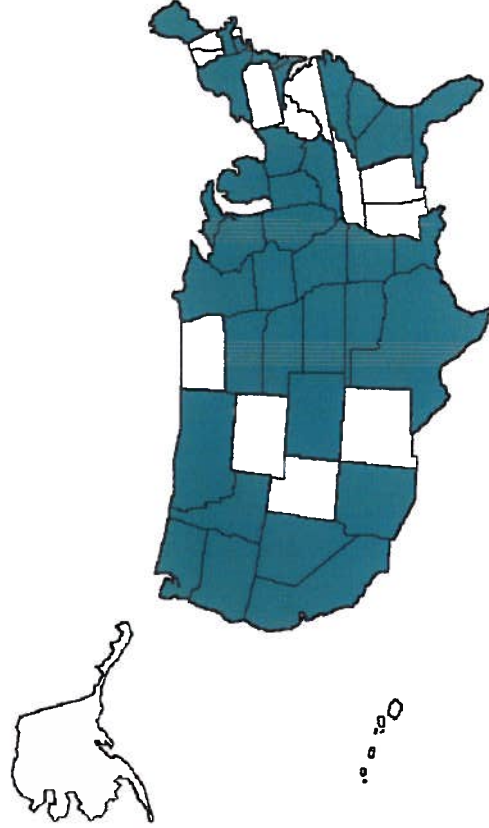
# Efficient & Effective Work

## Notices

When a County or State's child welfare agency gets involved in the life of a family that they suspect to be Cherokee, they're required by the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) to send Notice to the tribe. The tribe must then reply to confirm or deny whether the children are members of (or eligible to become members of) the tribe. The tribe has 30 days to respond.

Cherokee Nation received 601 Notices from 35 states (highlighted in teal, to the right) and 31 counties in Oklahoma (highlighted in orange, to the right) regarding 1,063 children in March.

The longest Response-to-Notice time in March was 13 days.

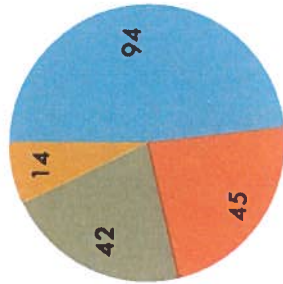






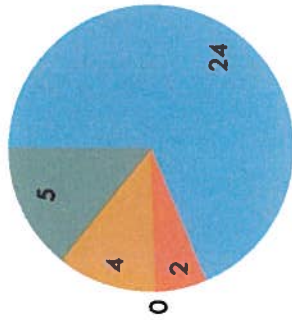
# Resource Families (Foster & Adoptive Homes)

Types of Resource Families Currently Certified



- Non-Relative Adoptive
- Non-Relative Foster
- Emergency/Respite
- Relative Adoptive/Foster

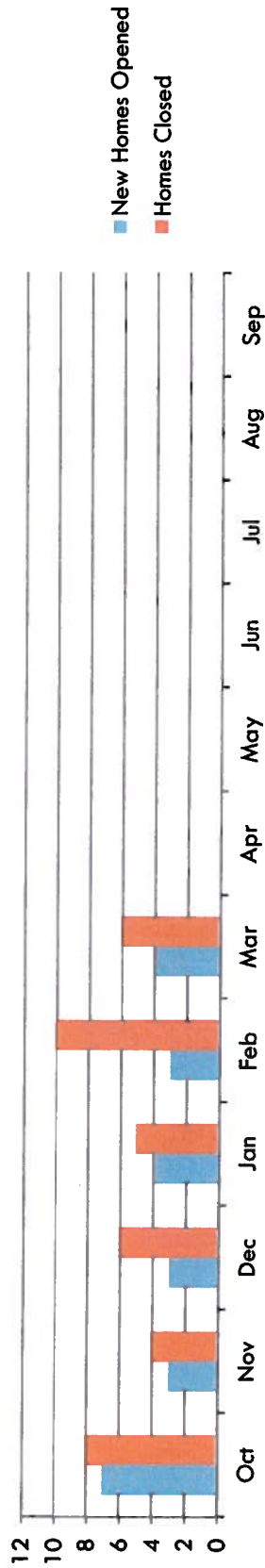
Types of Resource Family Applications Pending



- Non-Relative Adoptive
- Non-Relative Foster
- Emergency/Respite
- Relative Adoptive/Foster
- Non-Relative Foster/Adopt

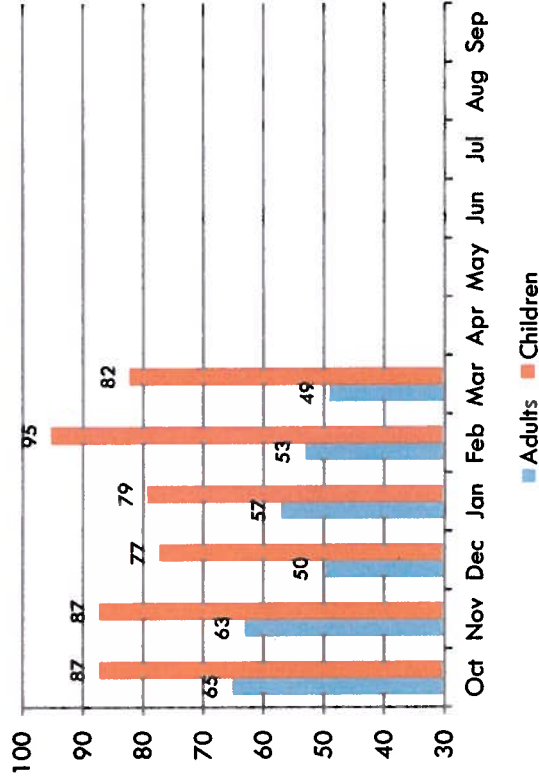
## Types of Resource Families

- Non-Relative Adoptive:** Families who hope to adopt children when the children's parents' rights are terminated. These homes do not take foster placements.
- Non-Relative Foster/Adopt:** Families who take foster placement of children knowing their parental rights are not terminated and they could return home, but if they don't the placement family will have the first chance to adopt them.
- Non-Relative Foster:** Families who are willing to take in children they do not know on a temporary basis, but may last years. These families usually do not adopt children.
- Relative Adoptive/Foster:** Families who are related to the children and are fostering them or planning to adopt them. They do not take in children they are not related to.
- Emergency/Respite:** Families that take very short-term placement of children while more permanent placements are sought or when only a short-term placement is needed.



# Mayes County Prevention Project

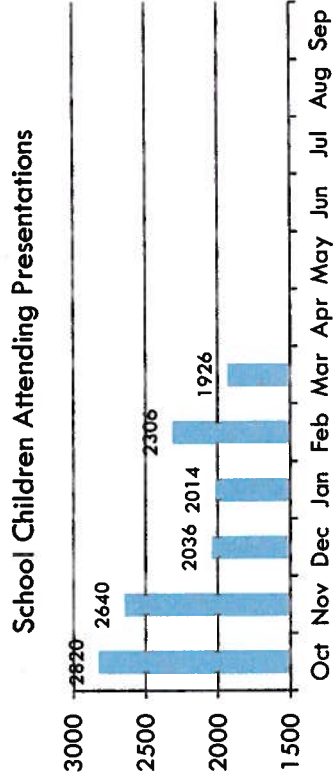
## Services to Families



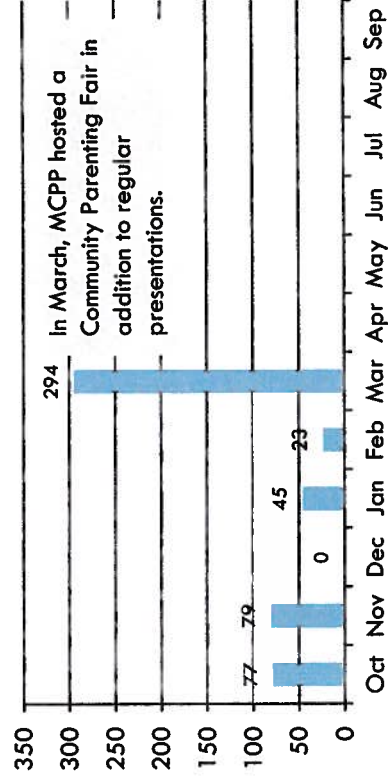
MCPP is a pilot project designed to prevent child abuse and neglect by:

1. Working with families before they need DHS intervention, and
2. Making community and school presentations to educate and inform parents and families.

## Services to Communities



## People Attending Community Presentations



# John A. Ketcher Youth Services Center

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## Emergency Youth Shelter

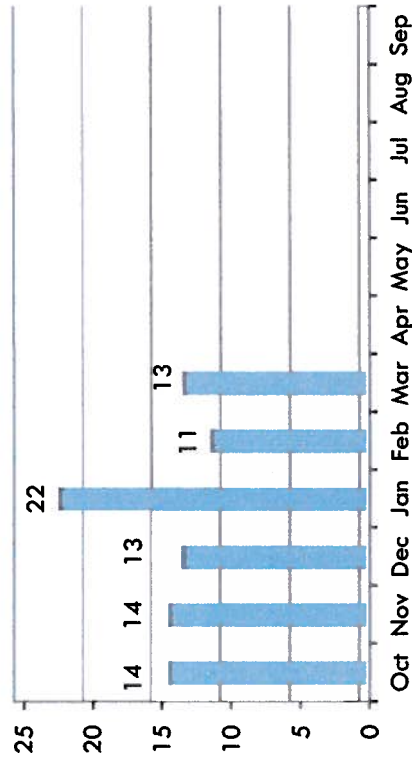
- 16 young people served in March.
- 87 Admissions since October 1.

The Emergency Youth Shelter is a 24-hour facility that serves a minimum of 180 youth per year. Services include crisis intervention, counseling, case management, transportation, recreation, health screenings, educational assistance, information and referral, advocacy and other residential services that support a safe and healthy living environment.

### Challenge Areas:

- Kitchen is not up to standards—needs remodeling.
- No generator—must evacuate in power outages.
- Not accessible—Does not meet ADA standards.
- Roof leaks—needs roofing and removal of skylights.
- Maintenance—needs paint and general upkeep that's been neglected.

New Admissions FY 2012

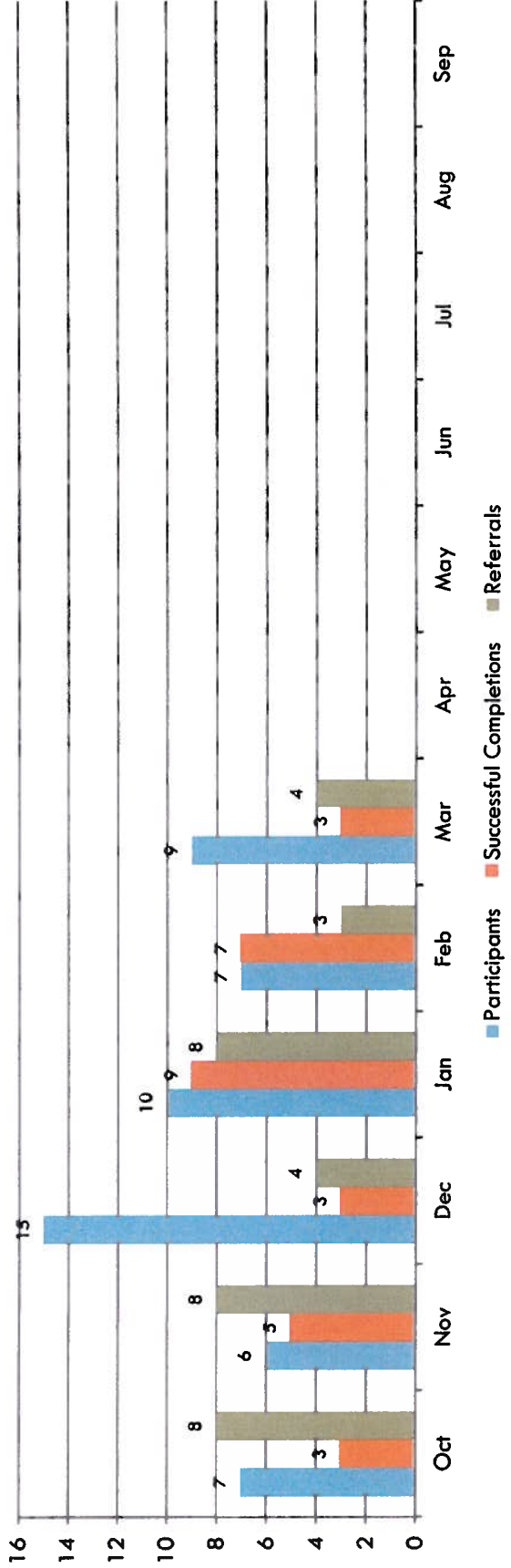
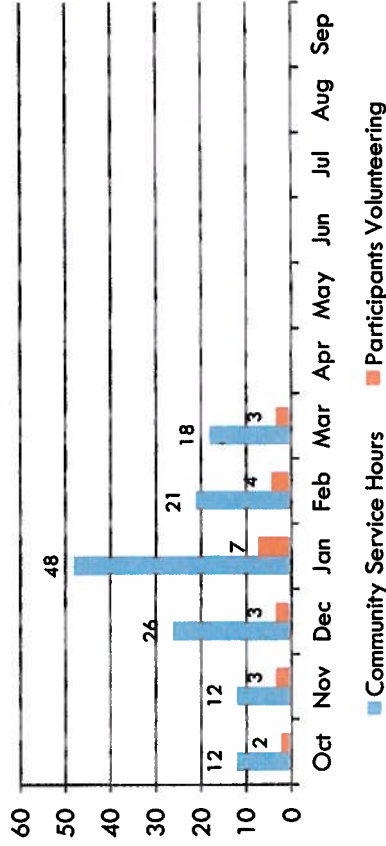


# John A. Ketcher Youth Services Center

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## Juvenile First Time Offender Program (JFTOP)

The Juvenile First Time Offender Program is funded by the Office of Juvenile Affairs. Using an evidence-based curriculum, JFTOP's mission is to increase positive life-skill development to at least 20 Cherokee County youth (age 10-17) per year.

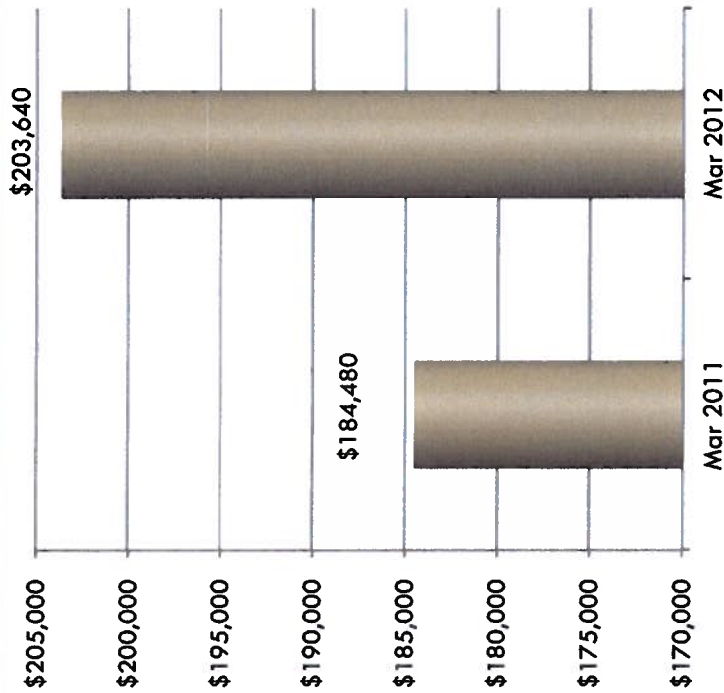


# Office of Child Support Services

**Kara Whitworth, Director**

# Supporting Children and Families

## Child Support Distribution



- In March, \$203,639.84 was paid directly to the custodial parent for child support or to the State of Oklahoma to offset service program expenditures the custodial parent used.
- March's distribution is \$19,160 more than March 2011.
- The Office of Child Support Services' staff of 29 handles approximately 2,800 cases and has about 900 client contacts per month.
- 15 new applications for services were taken in March.

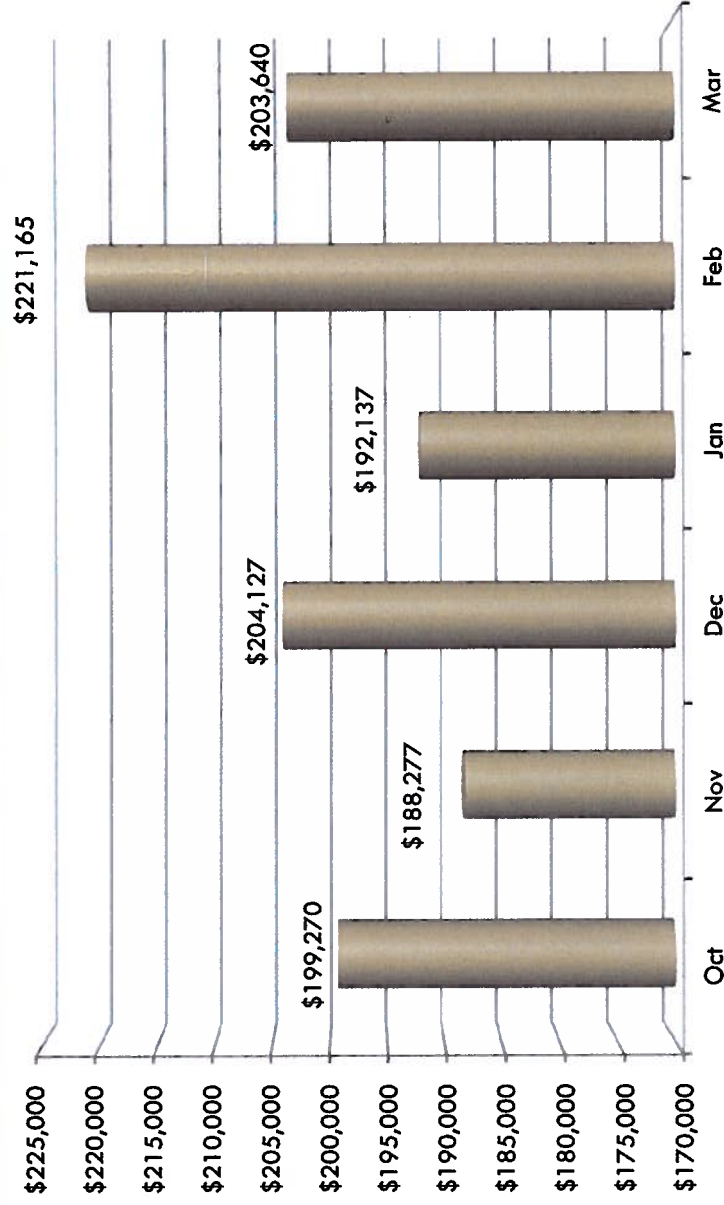
Families who need assistance with  
Child Support matters should call the  
Office of Child Support Services at  
918-453-5444

# Economic Impact

## Eligibility Requirements:

- Must live in the CN jurisdiction (If both parents agree, we can serve families outside the jurisdiction)
- Children must be below 18 years old (or 19 if still in high school)
- Children must be members of CN (or eligible for membership)

## FY 2012 Distribution (Year To Date): \$1,208,616






# School Clothing Vouchers

## Update: March 2012

- Save-The-Date Flyers have been mailed to all schools in the jurisdiction.
- In April, an informational flyer will be sent home with all students enrolled in JOM.
- By the end of May, an informational flyer will be mailed to every household who received a voucher in 2011.
- The bid for a vendor is still open (until April 17).
- There will be 12 distributions dates in July.



CHEROKEE NATION

## SAVE THE DATE

### CHEROKEE NATION SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM STARTS JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>!!!

The Cherokee Nation Office of Child Support Services is pleased to announce that Cherokee Nation School Clothing Vouchers will once again be provided for all ELIGIBLE children who are Cherokee citizens. The program will run through the month of July 2012. There will be 11 different sites and 12 different days for families to come and apply for vouchers. We would like to encourage you to view the list of dates and locations that are nearest you and **SAVE THE DATE** on your calendar. Please watch for more information at [www.cherokee.org](http://www.cherokee.org), in newspapers, and/or various CN facilities.

Hope to see you in July!  
Sponsored By Cherokee Nation Office of Child Support Services  
Hotline: 918-772-4144  
Email: [childsupport@cherokee.org](mailto:childsupport@cherokee.org)

#### JULY 2012 CLOTHING VOUCHER PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2, Laurel Grove Elementary Cohabata	3, Cherokee High School Open	4, HAPPY 4 <sup>th</sup> OF JULY	5	6	7
8	9, Cohabata High School Cohabata Area	10, On Beyond Community Center	11	12	13, Nevada High School Cohabata Area	14
15	16, Stewart High School Cohabata	17	18	19, Oakley High School Cohabata	20, Ft. Gibson High School Cohabata	21
22	23, Vada High School Indian mounds school Cohabata	24	25	26, Jay Upper Elementary Cohabata	27, Woodall Public Schools Cohabata	28
29	30	31, Weadles Private Schools Cohabata				

\*Cherokee Nation Child Support staff will also be available ON SITE at each location from 10am - 7pm\*

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## Family Assistance

**Jerry Snell, Director**

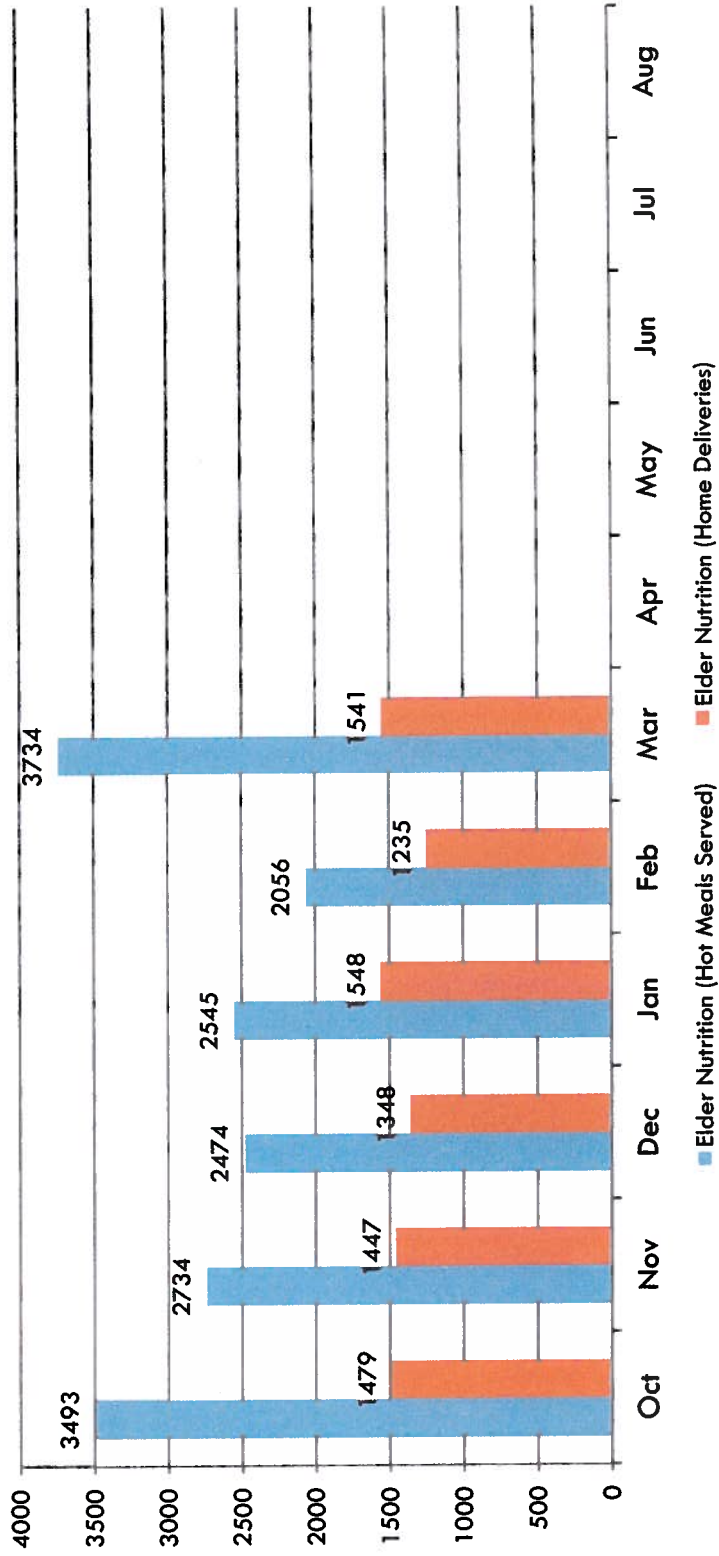
# Senior Nutrition

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## Food Programs for Elders

Hot Meals Served FY12 YTD: 13,302

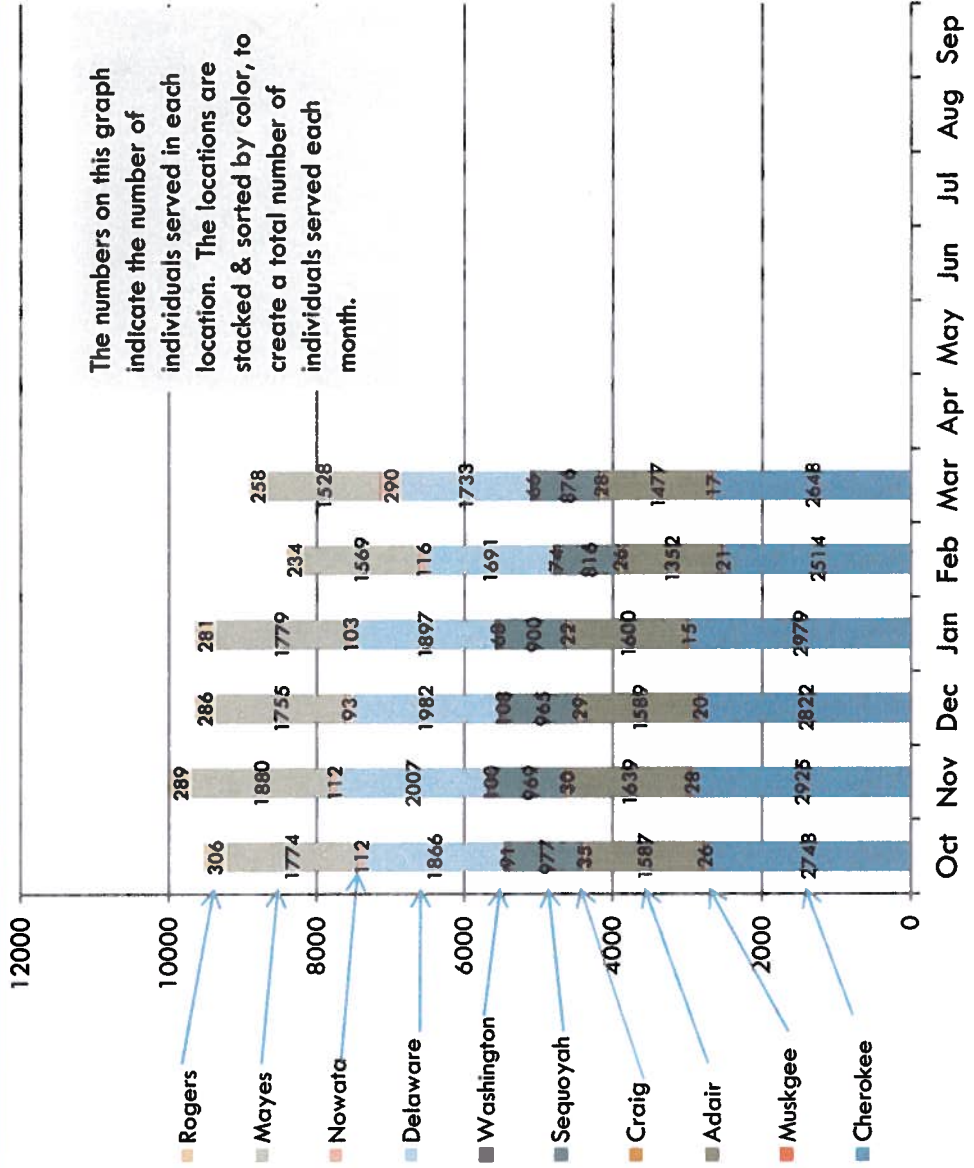
Home Deliveries FY12 YTD: 8,598



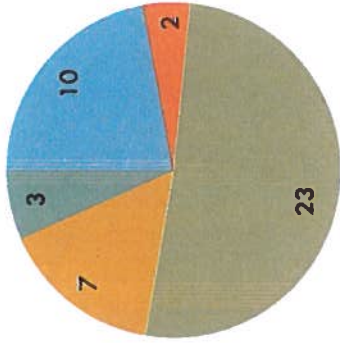
# Food Distribution (FDPIR)

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Individuals Served YTD: 56,128



Day Training Staff: 45



Jay Salina Sallisaw Stilwell Tahlequah

The National Association of Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: "Let's Move Toward a Healthier Generation"

will be at the Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel in Niagara, NY June 25-29, 2012.

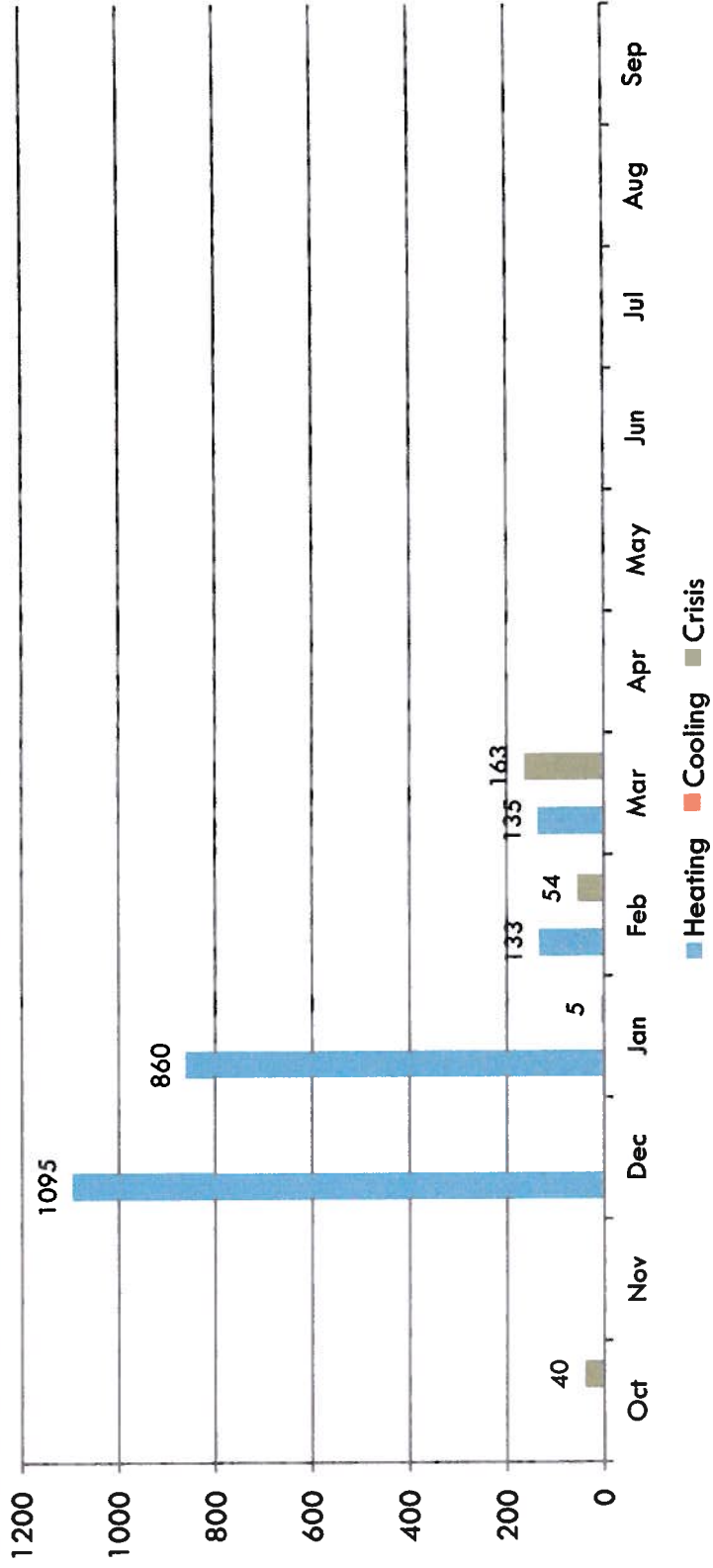
# LIHEAP

## Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

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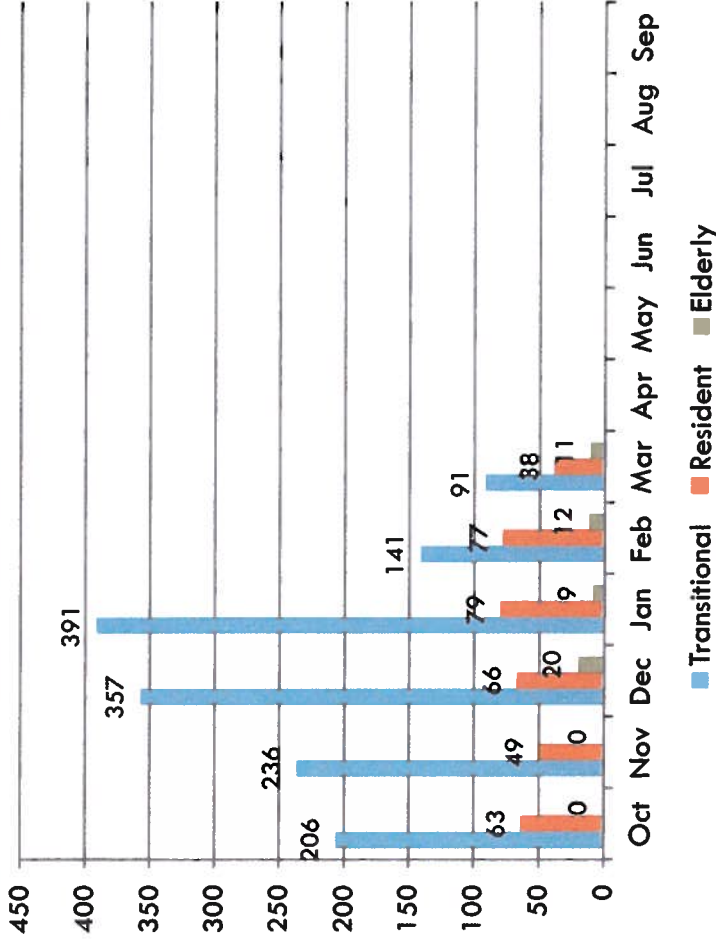
All Types Served YTD: 2485

FY 2012 Projected number served: 4400  
Percent of projected capacity achieved: 56.5%



# NAHASDA Programs

Households Served YTD: 1846



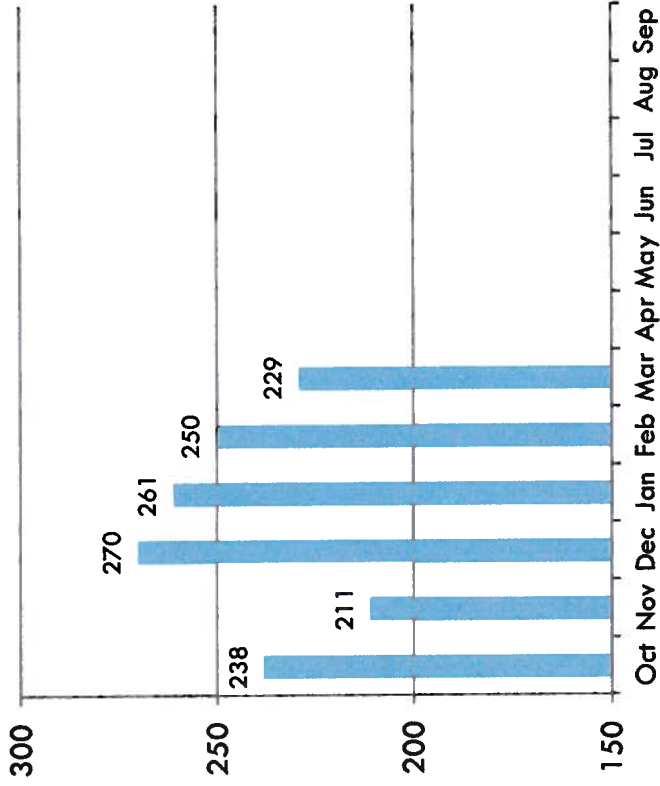
**NAHASDA Resident Services** provides housing assistance to low-income Cherokees who are currently residing in or moving into a HUD supported living arrangement. Assistance of up to \$500 per application may be paid to landlords, utility companies, or others, as needed.

**NAHASDA Transitional Services** helps low-income Cherokees pay for rent deposits, utility deposits, or rent or utilities needed to move into safe housing or to prevent eviction.

# General & Burial Assistance

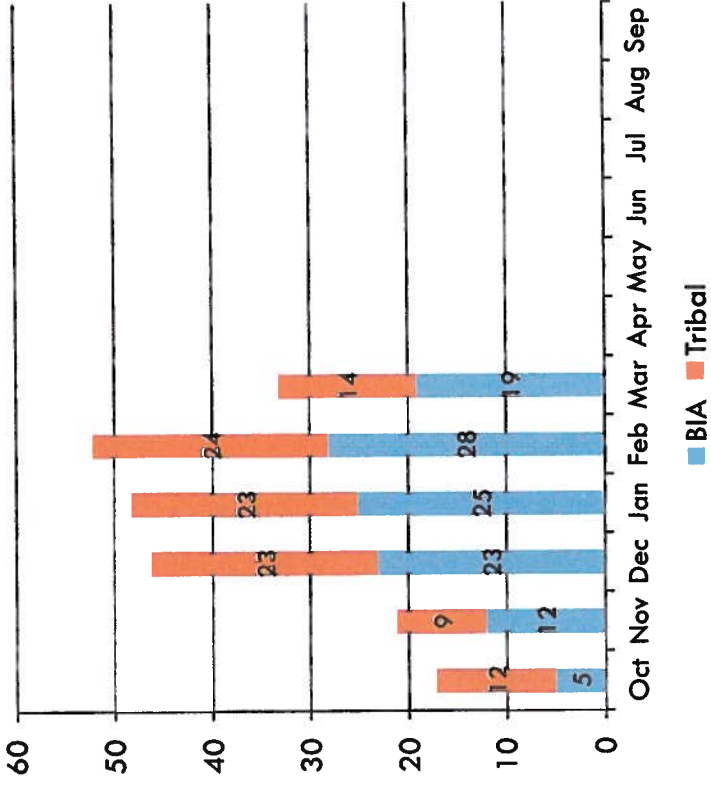
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**General Assistance YTD: 1459**



**Burial Assistance YTD: 217**

Capacity Used FY12: BIA: 45% Tribal: 47%



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# Child Care & Development

**Laurie Hand, Director**



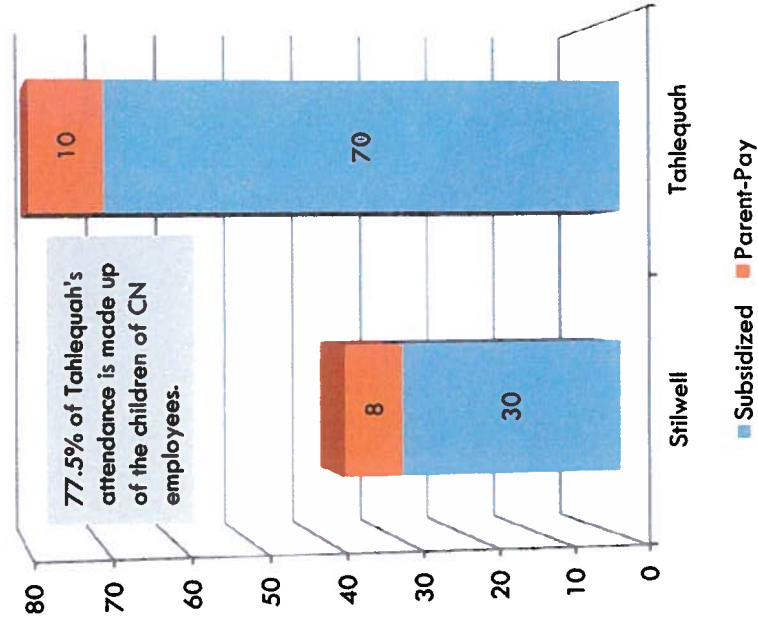
# Child Care and Development Programs

## Laurie Hand, Director

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### Child Development Centers

Children Attending



#### Mission Statement:

To provide a high quality early childhood program in a safe and nurturing environment that promotes each child's individual development while being responsive to the families' needs.

The Child Development Center is rated Three Stars—the highest possible rating in Oklahoma.

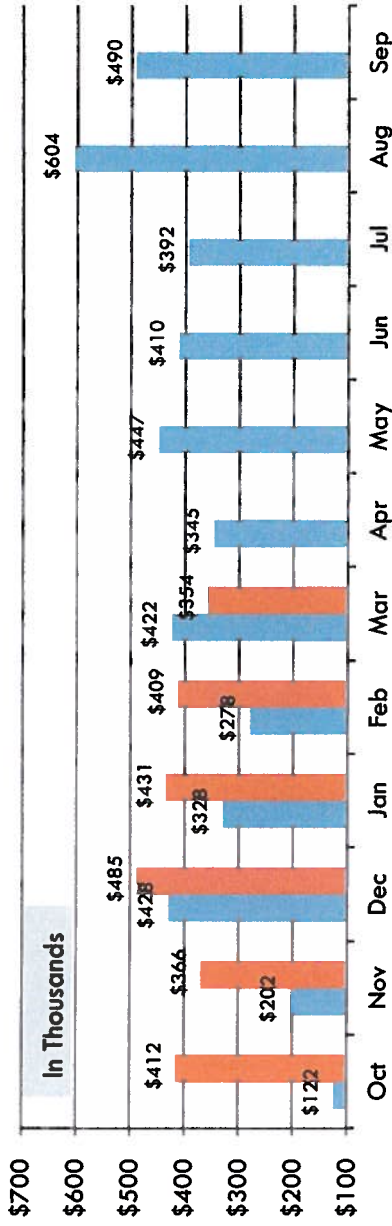
The Child Development Center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children for it's higher standards in:

- Staff Training
- Staff Compensation
- Staff/Child Ratio
- Classroom Environment
- Curriculum

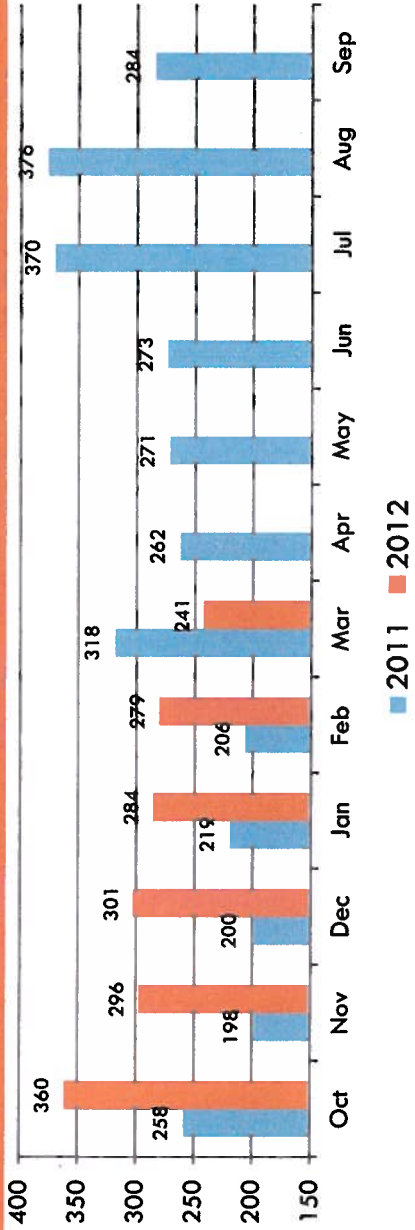


# Child Care Subsidy

## Child Care Subsidy Distributed FY 2012 YTD: \$2,456,139.50



## Child Care Providers Paid



## Economic Impact

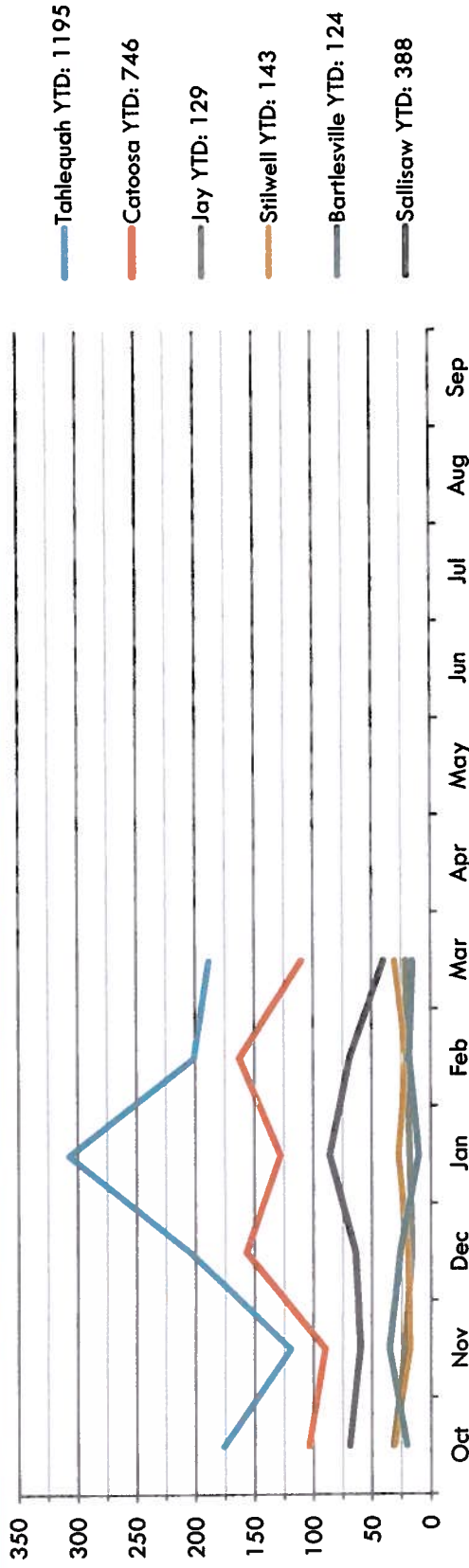
Child Care Subsidy helps Child Care providers stay in business by helping parents pay for child care expenses.

Over \$4.4 million dollars were added to the local economy in FY 2011 thanks to Cherokee Nation's Child Care Subsidy program.

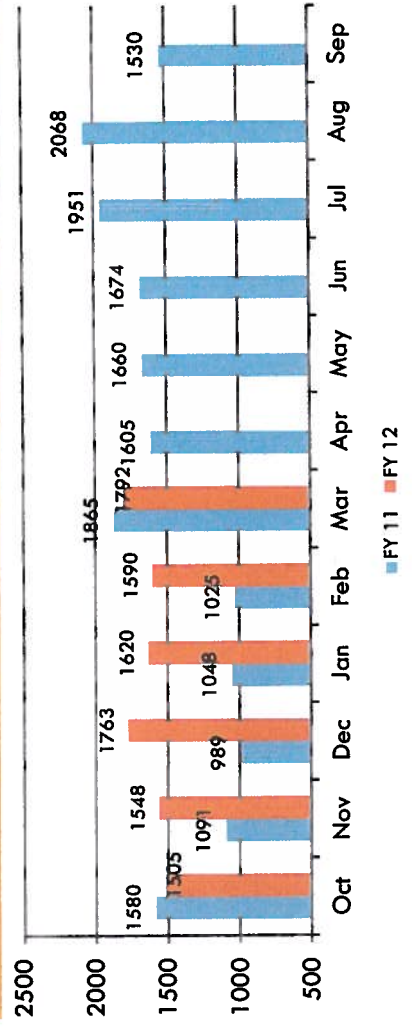
# Child Care Subsidy

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**FY12 New Applications Received YTD: 2725 children (1571 families)**



## Number of Children Receiving Subsidy



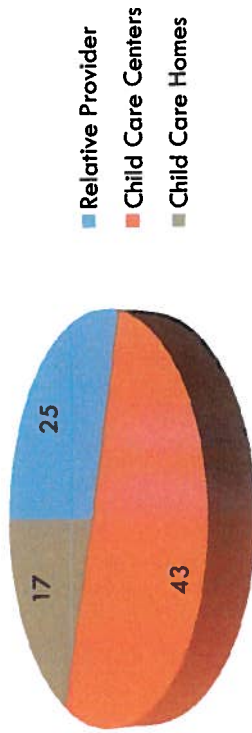
Child Care Subsidy allows parents to work and go to school.

Without Child Care Subsidy, child care expenses would force many parents to quit school or work, or send children to unlicensed child care settings which may have no health and safety standards.

# Child Care Programs

## Licensing & Monitoring

Visits



Cherokee Nation's Child Care Licensing and Monitoring Department works with OKDHS to monitor compliance with standards for health and safety for children in the 423 child care homes and centers in our jurisdiction.

## Resource & Referral

R&R provides child care trainings and information to providers of child care services.  
 R&R helps parents locate child care services.  
 R&R offers technical assistance to child care providers.  
 R&R makes community education presentations about child care.

#	Activities in March
147	Information Calls Received
18	Parent Calls for Referrals
4	Community Events
30	Home Visits for Technical Assistance

89 people attended trainings in March. Seven trainings were held in 5 counties:  
 Cherokee – 2  
 Mayes – 2  
 Delaware – 1  
 Adair – 1  
 Ottawa – 1

# Child Care & Development News

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Cherokee Child Care was featured on  
**DHHS' Office of Child Care** web blog

Cherokee Nation's Child Care programs recently received national attention when the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families' Office of Child Care featured our programs on their web blog.



*“The Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma made big changes to all its tribally-operated child care facilities. They incorporated natural elements into outdoor play spaces, created healthier menus, and increased the amount of time kids engage in active play. Over the last 2 years, a team of Cherokee child care trainers participated in [I Am Moving, I Am Learning](http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2012/03/lets-move-child-care) workshops and have gone on to train other tribal organizations.”*

<http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2012/03/lets-move-child-care>

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## Special Programs

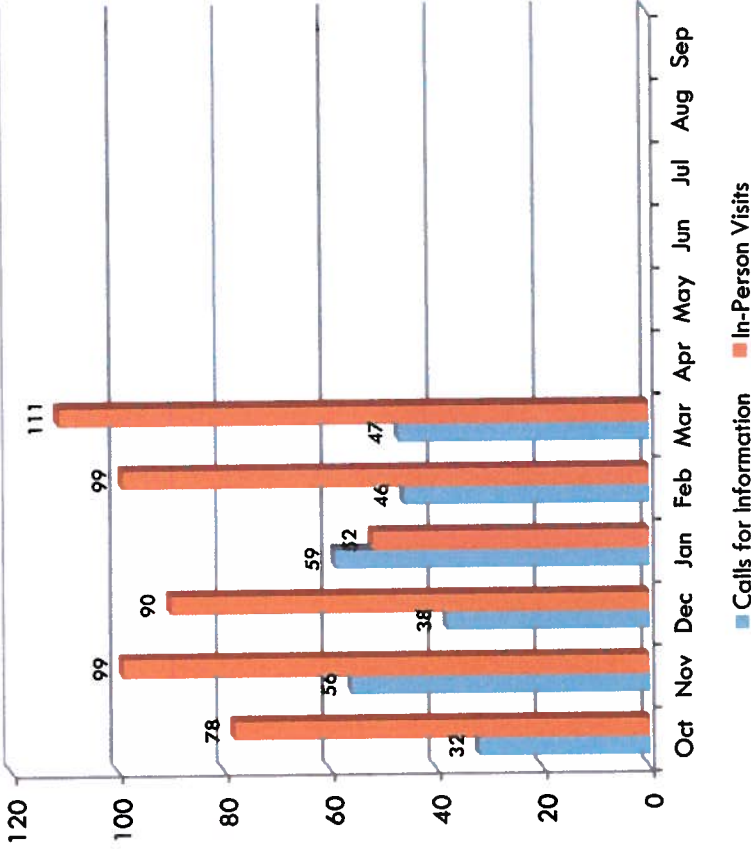
**Jennifer Kirby, Assistant Manager**

# Office of Veteran's Affairs

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## Office of Veterans Affairs

## OVA News



The Tribal Veteran's Representative (TVR) met with veterans in the Tahlequah office as well as in Stilwell, Jay, Grove, Muskogee, Colcord, Kansas and Tulsa.

The TVR made four visits to Veterans' Administration Medical Centers and Clinics in March.

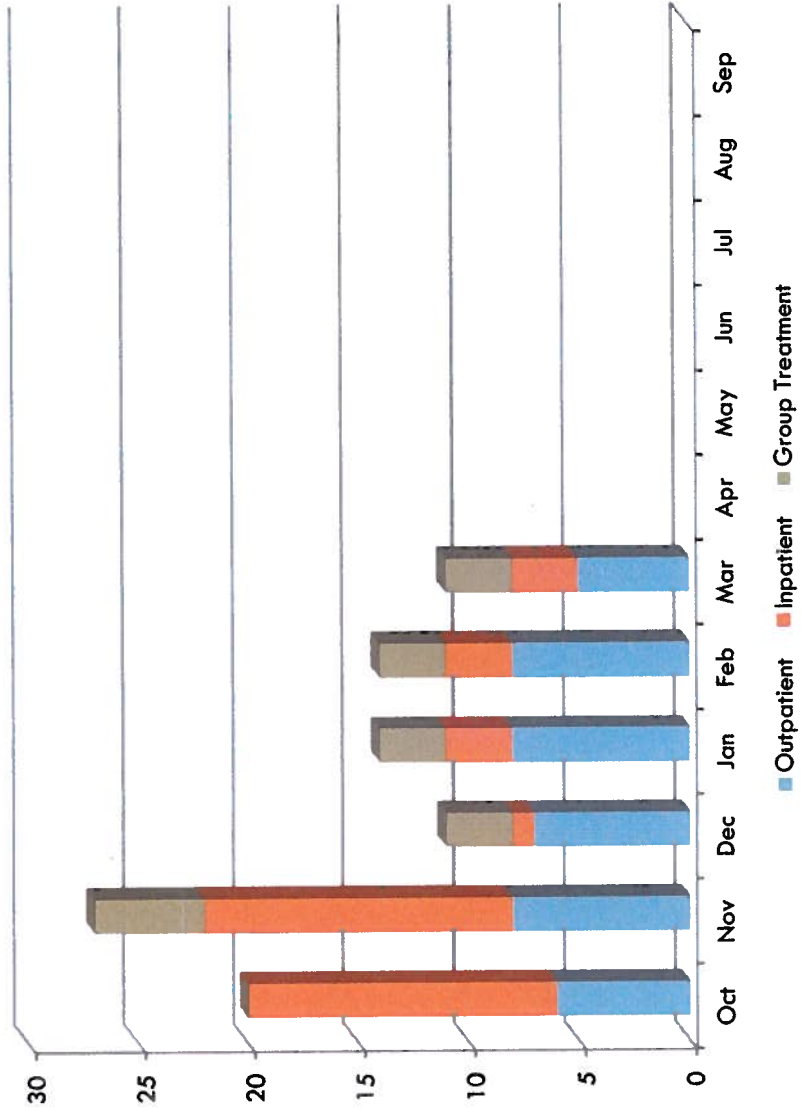
The Color Guard was involved in one parade in March.

# Youth Programs: Overcoming Substance Abuse

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## Healing to Wellness Court Program & Reclaiming Futures

Juvenile Drug Court & Substance Abuse Recovery Services



### Services include:

- Drug & Alcohol Assessment
- Assessment of Co-Occurring Disorders
- Case Management
- Counseling
- Transportation
- Drug Testing
- School Visits
- Home Visits
- Incentives for Progress
- Cultural Activities

### Referrals & Information:

918-207-4908

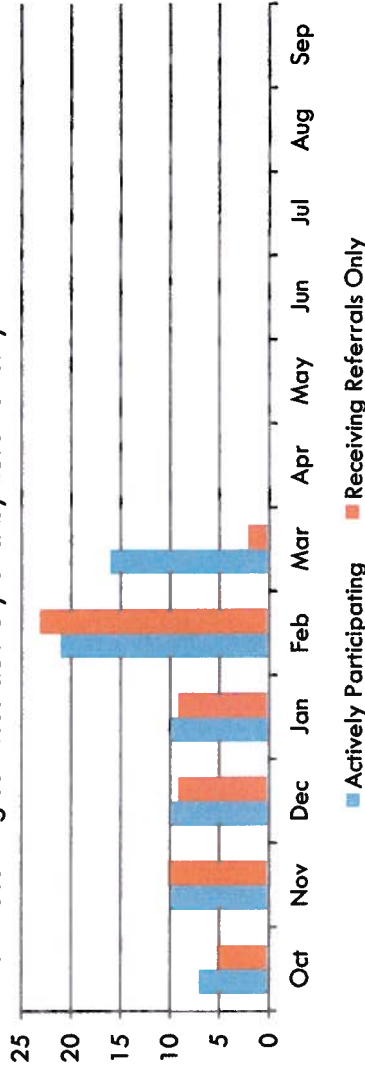


# Youth Programs: Increasing School Attendance

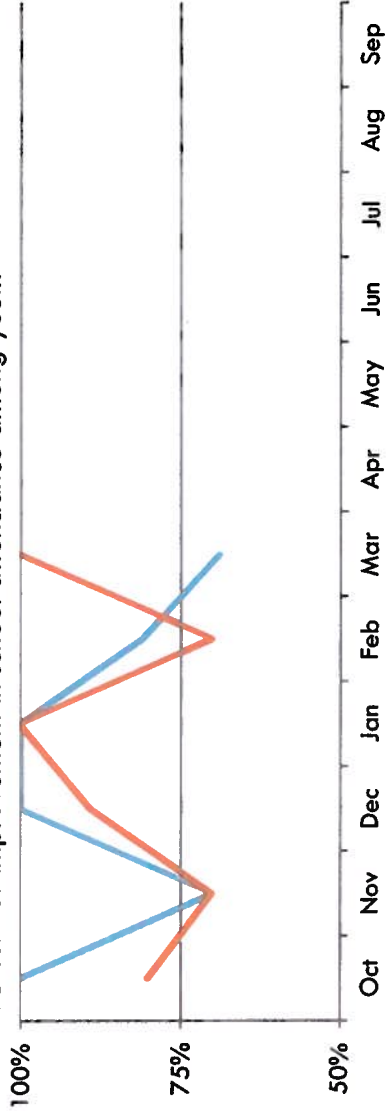
## Bright Futures

Truancy Prevention / Intervention

Youth receiving services actively and by referral only



Percent of improvement in school attendance among youth



Bright Futures is a pilot project in Adair County designed to reduce truancy. Partners include every school district in Adair County, Adair County District Court, Stilwell City Police, CN Marshal Service and the District Attorney's Office.

Youth referred to Bright Futures: (1) participate actively, or (2) receive referral service only.

Regardless of level of participation, rates of improvement are high. Rates of improvement in attendance and school performance are higher among youth who actively participate.

# Administrative Initiatives

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## Nowata Open House

The dedication and open house for the new Food Distribution Center in Nowata will be on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30.

## Medicaid Billing for Cherokee children and families involved in the OKDHS system

We are developing a plan to increase behavioral health services to Cherokee children and families who are involved in the OKDHS child welfare system.

- Children are currently not being seen frequently enough to meet their behavioral health needs.
- Transportation and distance may interfere with families abilities to receive appropriate behavioral health services.
- The initiative would create a network of providers who would contract with Cherokee Nation to provide behavioral health services to these families.
- Medicaid reimbursement would be received from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, not from the State, thus saving the State money

## Income Comparison

We will conducting an income comparison of applicants for Family Assistance Services next month (May) with results reported as soon as possible afterward.

## Program Evaluations (Evidence Based Decision Making)

We plan to evaluate all our programs to determine their levels of quality and customer service.

We've started with Family Assistance and have some very interesting preliminary results. For example:

- 87% respond that they are greeted nicely in the Tahlequah office. The average score for all offices was 81%
- 91% of applicants in the Jay office said they were treated with respect. The average score for all offices was 82%.
- 90% said the person helping them in the Catoosa office was nice. The average score for all offices was 84%.

Customer Service Trainings have been developed to respond to evaluation findings and are being implemented now. Final results will be published soon.

**Group:** Community Services      **Month/Year of Report:** April 2012  
**Group Leader:** David Southerland      **Phone:** 453-5248      **E-mail:** david-southerland@cherokee.org

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

**Water & Sanitation**

- Received award letter from IHS for FY12 Housing funds for new-like new homes. Award amount \$785,000. Last years amount \$1,140,000 a reduction of \$355,000.
- Individual Tribal Water & Sewer funds approximately 60% expended.
- IHS provided a preliminary funding outlook for Regular projects. If funding occurs at expected levels the following regular projects will be funded
  - Cherokee/Multi County Regular Scattered : \$ 513,420
  - Cherokee/Colcord Connection: \$430,170
  - Cherokee/Kenwood Storage Tank \$139,840
  - Cherokee/Oaks Connection \$180,000

Total IHS funding \$1,263,430

In order to get these projects funded they will require a Tribal match in the amount of \$103,650 (approx 8%)

**Youth Development**

- Cherokee Heights had 4 youth activities in March; the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>; where they made baskets & green slime, did puzzle pages, had a drug free movie day and played Cherokee Marbles, there were from 3 - 12 youth at each meeting for a total of 38 youth, 2 parents, & 4 CYD staff in attendance.
- Kenwood had 1 youth activity scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup>, no youth showed up for the activity, community group leadership felt this was due to it being Spring Break week.
- Brushy youth activities are still on hold.
- Evening Shade youth activities are still on hold.
- Greasy had one youth activity on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> where they made baskets; there were 9 youth, 2 parents/community members & 2 CYD staff in attendance.
- Maryetta Boys & Girls club hosted a community youth activity on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, where they made cornbead necklaces, there were 25 youth, 2 B&G club staff and 3 CYD staff in attendance.
- Cave Springs Boys & Girls club hosted a community youth activity on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, where they made pine cone bird feeders, there were 5 youth, 1 parent, 1 Cave Springs B&G club staff and 3 CYD staff in attendance.

Youth Development mailed out 154 copies of flyers about April youth activities to residents, community organizations & participants in Cherokee Heights, Greasy, Kenwood, Maryetta & Cave Springs youth activities.

**Cherokee First/Community Youth**

- Assisted approximately 1310 clients through walk in or phone calls
- Processed 19 sports teams, 5 live stock and 24 youth applications and zero adult applications

*1392 Community Youth Fund Applications Funded FY2012*

*263 Adult Applications Funded 2012*

Adair County—564	Nowata County—27	Adair County—73	Nowata County—12
Cherokee County—594	Rogers County—20	Cherokee County—136	Rogers County—1
Craig County—23	Sequoyah County—114	Craig County—0	Sequoyah County—26
Delaware County—116	Tulsa County—18	Delaware County—11	Tulsa County—0
Mayes County—62	Wagoner County—11	Mayes County—6	Wagoner County—0
Muskogee County—43	Washington County—3	Muskogee County—4	Washington County—0
McIntosh County—0	Ottawa County—2	McIntosh County—0	Ottawa County—0

**273 Adult applications on hold due to lack of funding**

Adair County—145	Nowata County—2
Cherokee County—82	Rogers County—5
Craig County—1	Sequoyah County—25
Delaware County—2	Tulsa County—1
Mayes County—0	Wagoner County—0
Muskogee County—3	Washington County—7
McIntosh County—0	Ottawa County—0

**Cotta:**

COTTA Staff provided Cherokee Community leaders 47 hours of training  
33 unique Cherokee Community Organizations requested technical assistance from COTTA.

**At-Large Cherokee Communities**

- At-Large Cherokee Communities hosted 6 community meetings in New Mexico, Arizona, Texas and Florida.

At-Large	# Pres
Valley of the Sun Cherokees	35
Desert Cherokees	16
Cherokee Southwest Township	44
Cherokee At-Large Voters League	28
Cherokees of Central Florida	27
U of FI Native Traditions Class & Heritage Soc	35

- A total of 22 At-large community organizations representing 9 states were contacted during the month to assist them in planning future programs. COTTA staff provided 794 hours of training and service to 399 of our at-large citizens representing 22 of our At-Large communities.

**Sub-Awards**

- Sub-Awards were delivered to 28 community organizations.

**Community Work/Community Building**

- **Community Building/Works:** COTTA staff reviewed and made recommendations on the 43 Community Building/Works applications to management. New policies and procedures were developed for reporting activities as well as financial management of the grants by the community groups.

- **Community Building/Works worked with 22 communities this month:**

Bluejacket Cherokee Comm Assoc	Marble City Comm. Pantry & Youth Ser
Brent Community Organization	Marble City Historical Society
Brushy Cherokee Action	Native American Fellowship
CC Camp	Oaks Senior Citizens
Cherokee Arts & Humanities Cncl	Orchard Road Community Organization
Cherokee Elders Council	Project A
Chewey Community Organization	Rocky Ford Community Association
Fairfield Community Organization	Rocky Mountain
Keener Baptist Church	Rogers County Cherokee assn
Legacy Art and Wellness Center	Star of Bethlehem
Loyal Shawnee	Vian Charitable Trust
Lyons Community Organization	Victory Cherokee
Marble City Comm Organization	Watts Community Youth Center

- **Community Building/Works** prepared 11 contracts prepared for 2012
- **Community Building/Works** was able to closeout files on 7 of the 18 projects funded in 2011 accounting for \$167,800 of the \$400,000 allocated for projects that year.
- **Community Building/Works** Policies have been re-written and sent to senior level management for approval
- **Community Building/Works** Contract re-written and approved

**Volunteer Program**

- **Volunteer Program** assisted 3 communities in hosting 7 University Alternative Spring Break groups. These groups provided our communities with 1865 hours of volunteer labor and assistance.

<b>Volunteer Program</b>	<b># Vol</b>
<b>Tampa University</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Florida University</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>University of Connecticut</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Sam Houston State University</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Illinois State</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Kansas State</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>NE Illinois</b>	<b>10</b>

**Community Impact**

- **NoWeTa Cherokee Community Foundation** hosted a cultural craft class, a Youth Roller Night and a Community Cleanup Day. These events brought together 34 members of the community to learn traditional beading techniques, have safe fun fellowship and clean the area around the health center. Community volunteers provided 17.5 hours of service to their community.

**Roads:**

**ADAIR COUNTY PROJECTS:**

- Chewey Road – Designer: Red Plains Engineering. Red Plains submitted 60% plans for review on April 2, 2012
- Dahlongah South – Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen 60% plans are ready to be checked. R/W is checking the Exhibits and Easements at this time Hydrology Reports was received and soil reports were received 2/1/12.
- The following projects are currently under design –
  - Bell North – Designer: Red Plains Engineering. 30% Review and Plan in Hand was complete on 9/19/11. Contract modifications were done to include low water crossings, and changes to the BOP and EOP. Red Plains submitted preliminary hydraulics for the low water crossings on April 5, 2012
  - CNI Industrial Access – Designer: J. Shehi. Preliminary design alignment has been submitted for check. Met with Bud Squirrel and Tim Kidd with Food Distribution at 10:00am and Doyle Czapsky with Faset at 1:30pm on March 2 to discuss their scheduling and operation procedures so we can determine how to phase construction.
  - Dahlongah West- Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen. R/W is complete with research of ownership. Ownership was mailed out 12/12/11 to HUB. HUB has emailed some comments and questions on 2/9/12 that they would like addressed before they submit a 30% Review.
  - Lyon Switch – Designer: J. Shehi. Preliminary design has started.
  - Malloy Hollow– Designer: D. Moore. Preliminary Design has started.
  - North Salem (Bethel Road) – Designer: Red Plains. 30% Review and Plan in Hand was completed on 9/22/11. A contract modification was made on 2/14/2012 to realign the intersection of Hwy 59 and North Salem Road 470’ south of the existing intersection to provide safer sight distance.

- Smith Hollow – Red Plains submitted revised 60% Construction Drawings, revised hydrology and hydraulic report, and geotechnical report on 12/13/11 for review.
- The following projects are still pending design –
  - Bell School South – Survey is 85% complete.
  - Oak Ridge – survey is 30% complete. R/W finished research 7/29/11.
  - Rocky Mountain School Loop
  - Sally Bull Hollow – Pending design. Right of Way research is complete

### **CHEROKEE COUNTY PROJECTS:**

Barber Road- Designer: Andy Harris. Project is awarded to Glover & Associates. Construction is 35 % complete. contractor installing drainage pipes and constructing subgrade

The following projects are still under design –

- Cedar Hollow I & II – Designer: Native American Consulting Engineers (NACE). Petition to stop the road was submitted by landowners on November 14, 2011. Meeting with NACE on January 12, 2012 to discuss design options and landowner’s petition against the project. NACE submitted 30% design and Engineer’s report on 4/10/12. A preliminary community meeting will be set after design check is complete.
- Dreadfulwater Road – Designer: Andy Harris. No change
- Shady Grove Loop – Designer: Circuit Engineering District (CED) through Cherokee County. This is a cooperative project between the Cherokee Nation and Cherokee County. This project will be advertised for bidding Monday, April 19, 2012.
- Hulbert-Lost City – Designer: Andy Harris. Hydrology Report was completed and the project has been imported into new software to allow the design to progress.
- Lost City Road – Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen. Right of way research is complete. Preliminary survey complete. 30% set of plans received 12/27/2011 for review.
- Tenkiller School –Designer: Red Plains. R/W sent everything that pertained to Tenkiller R/W back to Red Plains 3/5/12. R/W is meeting with the appraiser 3/14/12 to discuss his time frame for completion of appraisals.

### **DELAWARE COUNTY PROJECTS:**

- Jay-Kenwood Road – no change R/W has been working with Rose/McCrary on the Bridges and the bridges are in the 95% stage of completion. Once the exhibits are completed CN R/W will prepare the Tribal packages for each bridge and present to Real Estate Services. Final design plans for the four bridges were received for review on 01/06/12. Rose & McCrary submitted final revised plans for all four bridges on March 30, 2012.
- Kansas-Bull Hollow – Designer: Scott & Associates. Preliminary design has started. Regina Compelube and John Compelube completed an in-field Plan Review 10/12/11. 60% plans were received 08/18/11 but waiting on correction to hydrology.
- Kansas Dry Creek Project- Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen. Right of Way exhibits and easements are being worked on by Holloway Updike & Bellen. R/W received exhibits and easements 10/12/11. 60% Plans were submitted for review on 10/25/11. Hydrology and Soil reports were submitted 2/1/2012.
- Leach/Kenwood Road – Designer: D. Moore. Proposed realignment for structure replacement was approved and project is almost ready for 60% review.
- Twin Oaks/Bull Hollow Road- Designer: D. Moore. Plans are complete and ready for bid. Bid documents/contract is being assembled.
- The following projects are still pending design –
  - D0525 Road

## **MAYES COUNTY PROJECTS:**

- Cedar Crest Road – Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen. Bid opening was Tuesday, March 20, 2012. Contractor: Rossco Construction, Muskogee, OK.
- Wickliffe Bridge (Salina/Kenwood)- Designer: Guy Engineering (Contracted through the county). Preliminary Plan In Hand performed on April 26, 2011. Preliminary Plan Sheets for additional scope of work discussed in plan in hand was submitted for our review on 10/6/11. Final check was completed on 1/18/12 and revisions submitted to Guy Engineering.

## **MUSKOGEE COUNTY PROJECTS:**

- Northeast Fort Gibson- Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen. Soil report was submitted 2/1/12. HUB sent a set of Construction and R/W plans to CN R/W 1/26/12. These were not 60% complete a lot of missing info. John C. talked with Regina C. and she stated that the plans were not 60% complete. Until HUB sends in a complete 60% set of plans for Design to Check a acquisition meeting will be on HOLD until R/W is notified that we can proceed.
- The following project(s) are still pending design –
  - Ross Road Rehab

## **SEQUOYAH COUNTY PROJECTS:**

- Moonshine Road – Preliminary survey complete. design pending
- Nicut South Rehab- Adair – Designer: Don Moore. Final plans submitted on 11/22/11.

## **FUTURE PLANS/NEW INITIATIVES**

### **Roads:**

- Cedar Crest Bridge – Mayes – Designer: Holloway Updike & Bellen. Plans are complete. Paradigm Construction has been selected as the contractor for this project. Contract for this project is \$1,965,518.30. The contractor is scheduled to start construction on May 14, 2012.
- Little Lee Creek Bridge (located on Nicut South Road)– Designer: Circuit Engineering District (CED) through Sequoyah County. Paradigm Construction has been selected as the contractor for this project by the Roads Department. The contract is currently in the process of being finalized. Contract for this project is \$830,354.55.

### **Cherokee Transit System:**

Ridership on all five current routes for the month of February are:

- Sallisaw to Tahlequah – 247 rides
- Pryor to Catoosa – 963 rides
- Salina to Tahlequah - 362 rides
- Stilwell to Tahlequah – 335 rides
- Muskogee to Tahlequah – 631 rides
- Tahlequah to Claremore – 399 rides
- Jay to Tahlequah – 251 rides
- Individual Demand Response Trips – 109 rides reported from KATS but no report from Pelivan at this time.

# **CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNITY SERVICES SELF HELP HOUSING AND BUILDING PACKAGES**

## **District 1—CHEROKEE**

- Project 100-5 (start date 07/2010) Water and Sanitation installed filtration system, septic system installed. House is at 98% complete
- Project 100-8 (start date 07/2011) House is being sheet rocked. Need to add bathroom and bedroom due to family size. House is 95% complete. Laying carpet 4/16/12.

## **District 2—ADAIR**

- Project 200-2 Applicant selected site at Fairfield due to original land tenure conflicts
- Project 200-4 Still waiting on documentation from applicant
- Project 200-6 Installing floor covering, electric installed, working on easement for water, working on bedroom addition, working on punch list. Home is 95% complete.

## **District 5—DELAWARE**

- Project 500-5 Well has been drilled, well is usable; ready for bid

## **District 7—ROGERS**

- 700-1(ROGERS) – (start date 03/07) Applicant is being removed from the program for failure to meet program objectives. House is at 53% ready for bid. Waiting on environmental to contract.
- 700-2(ROGERS) – (start date 03/07) Applicant is being removed from the program for failure to meet program objectives. House is at 55% ready for bid. Waiting on environmental to contract.
- Project 700-3 House is dried in. House is at 90% complete

## **District 8—WASHINGTON**

- Project 800-1 (start date 06/09) No change, still awaiting water meter set so rural water can be installed. House is ready to start punch list items. House is at 98% complete

## **District 9—CRAIG**

- Project 900-1 (start date 08/2011) Sheetrock, electrical, plumbing top outs are complete. House is 100% complete



**CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Group:** Housing Services **Month/Year of Report:** May 14, 2012

**Group Leader:** David Southerland **Phone:** (918) 453-5248

**I. Budget Highlights**

Housing Services Employees:

	9	Administrative
	60	Housing Management
	46	Low Rent
	3	New Dev
	86	Rehab
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	

Housing Authority Board meeting for April is scheduled for May 15, 2012, at the Alyene Hogner Conference Room starting at noon.

**II. Program Highlights**

**a.) Foreclosure Report**

	COUNTY	FORECLOSURE NOTICE RECEIVED	DATE ASSISTANCE RECEIVED	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	AMOUNT DUE CHEROKEE NATION
	Adair	10/14/11	07/08/09	MAP	\$ 11,638.00
	Cherokee	10/18/2011	4/20/2009	MAP	\$ 11,263.00
<b>New</b>	Cherokee	3/29/2012	10/1/2008	MAP	\$ 9,638.00
<b>New</b>	Cherokee	4/10/2012	2/1/2007	MAP	\$ 7,138.00
	Delaware	10/19/2011	9/8/2006	MAP	\$ 7,263.00
	Mayes	3/14/2012	10/13/2009	MAP	\$ 11,263.00
<b>New</b>	Mayes	4/10/2012	12/1/2004	MAP	\$ 2,596.33
<b>New</b>	Mayes	4/19/2012	12/5/2008	MAP	\$ 10,000.00
	Rogers	10/12/2011	6/6/2007	MAP	\$ 8,388.00
	Rogers	12/21/2011	4/1/2003	MAP	\$ 1,263.00
	Rogers	12/30/2011	2/1/2008	MAP	\$ 9,013.00
	Rogers	3/16/2012	9/1/2008	MAP	\$ 9,763.00
	Sequoyah	10/18/2011	6/19/2007	MAP	\$ 8,513.00
	Sequoyah	10/20/2011	7/27/2009	MAP	\$ 11,638.00
	Sequoyah	10/3/2011	1/25/2007	MAP	\$ 7,888.00
	Sequoyah	11/1/2011	7/14/2006	MAP	\$ 4,679.67
	Sequoyah	2/9/2012	1/31/2008	MAP	\$ 8,888.00
	Washington	3/2/2012	9/4/2009	MAP	\$ 11,263.00
	Washington	3/10/2012	10/2/2007	MAP	\$ 8,263.00
	Washington	3/12/2012	5/30/2007	MAP	\$ 7,763.00

**b.) Accomplishments/Current Events**

**CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

<i>Program</i>	<i>Families</i>			<i>Total Families Served in FY 2012</i>
	<i>Participating at October 1, 2011</i>	<i>New Participants in FY 2012</i>	<i>New Participants this Month</i>	
Community Shield	2,300	113	22	2,435
Mutual Help	1,317	14	2	1,333
Low Rent	805	107	22	934
Title VI	270	-		270
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,692</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>4,972</b>

**Rehab/Emergency/Handicap Assessability/LBP**

<i>County</i>	<i>Projected FY 2012</i>	<i>Completed</i>		<i>Total Completed FY 2012</i>
		<i>Since October 1, 2011</i>	<i>Completed this Month</i>	
Adair	32	53	8	61
Cherokee	54	32	5	37
Craig	11	5	3	8
Delaware	32	20	3	23
Mayes	25	15	0	15
McIntosh	2	1	0	1
Muskogee	16	12	1	13
Nowata	6	7	0	7
Ottawa	2	2	0	2
Rogers	34	8	2	10
Sequoyah	34	43	6	49
Tulsa	37	6	0	6
Wagoner	5	1	1	2
Washington	21	7	1	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>242</b>

**III. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

As required by 24 CFR part 1000.30, services provided to Cherokee Nation Housing Services Employees and Employee relatives from funds received pursuant to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, shall be publicly disclosed.

**HOME REHABILITATION:**

The following employee and/or relatives were chosen to receive services for Home Rehabilitation pursuant to guidelines set forth in the Housing Services Policy as approved by the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.

**CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE/HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY:**

The following employee and/or relatives were chosen to receive services for Emergency Assistance pursuant to guidelines set forth in the Housing Services Policy as approved by the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.

**MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE**

The following employee and/or relatives were chosen to receive services for Mortgage Assistance pursuant to guidelines set forth in the Housing Services Policy as approved by the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.

**LOW RENT APARTMENT**

The following employee and/or relatives were chosen to receive services for Low Rent Apartment pursuant to guidelines set forth in the Housing Services Policy as approved by the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation and/or the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation.

**HOMEOWNERSHIP**

The following employee and/or relatives were chosen to receive services for Homeownership pursuant to guidelines set forth in the Housing Services Policy as approved by the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation and/or the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation.

**RENTAL ASSISTANCE**

The following employee and/or relatives were chosen to receive services for Homeownership pursuant to guidelines set forth in the Rental Assistance Policy as approved by the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.  
Cherokee Nation.

Group: Commerce

Month/Year of Report: May 2012

Group Leader: Anna Knight

Phone: 453-5532

Email: aknight@cherokee.org

**Budget Highlights**

None

**Program Highlights**

a. Balanced Scorecard Measures

Objective	Metric	2011 Goal	Year to Date Achievement Notes/Comments
Families Housed	# of Families Obtaining Homeownership	300 Housed	59 families have been housed
Homeownership Training	a. # of Families Attending Homeownership Training	a. 800	a. 268
	b. % satisfaction	b. 95%	b. 100%
Families Increasing Financial Management Skills	a. # of Families Increasing Skills	a. 450	a. 1,226
	b. % satisfaction	b. 95%	b. 99.95%
		750 Families	479 Families
Self Sufficiency Counseling – Household Budgeting, Debt Reduction, & Credit Coaching	# of Families Actively Pursuing Goals or Achieved Goals	a. Actively Pursuing	a. 456 families actively pursuing goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11% mortgage ready</li> <li>• 11% short-term</li> <li>• 63% long-term</li> <li>• 3% AMP</li> <li>• 11% credit counseling</li> </ul>
		b. Achieved Goals	b. 23 families have completed self sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage
Attrition Rate	% of Families Abandoning Counseling	< 20% Attrition Rate	23.73% Attrition Rate
Market Rate Qualifiers	% of Families Qualifying for Market Rate Loans	75% Market Rate	96.30% Market Rate Qualifiers – does not include mobile home purchases CN jurisdiction foreclosure rate 3.5% (Q2 2011)
Families Housed	MAP Foreclosure Rate in Relation to CN Jurisdiction Foreclosure Rate	Within 3%	MAP foreclosure rate 2.4% Foreclosure rate is based on the % of active foreclosure filings/proceedings for MAP distributions made after 05/01/08.
Match Savings Program	# active participants	200	126

b. Notable accomplishments

1. Program to date, **358 families unable to obtain a non-predatory mortgage on their own** have completed self-sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage.
2. YTD, Self Sufficiency staff members have worked with 36 families facing foreclosure. **Staff helped 6 families save their home from foreclosure.** 18 families are still in the process of trying to save their homes; 6 families have been referred to outside sources for assistance; 3 families have dropped out of the program; 3 were not in foreclosure yet.
3. The **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program** kicked off January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cherokee Nation staff offered free tax preparation and filing services in twelve communities throughout tax season.

**1,553 taxpayers have taken advantage of this service and have received over \$2.2 million in refunds with over \$779,220 in Earned Income Tax Credit.**

Tax Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 to date
Returns Filed	2,311	1,785	2,118	2,681	1,553
Total Refunds	\$1,541,835	\$1,946,918	\$2,650,028	\$3,574,658	\$2,251,918*

\*This amount is not final; the IRS will send a final report in the coming weeks.

The average Adjusted Gross Income of families who utilized the VITA site was \$23,504.

Families who utilized the VITA sites received an average tax refund of \$1,745.

c. Future plans/new initiatives

1. Developing detailed short sale guidelines in conjunction with Housing Authority of Cherokee Nation to ensure all clients are treated consistently if the need to request a short sale arises.

Workshops and Classes			
Date	Location	Time	Workshop
May 5	Tahlequah	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
May 8	Victory Cherokee	6:30 pm to 8 pm	Coupon Workshop
May 12	Tahlequah	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
May 12	Sallisaw	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
May 14-15	Claremore	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
May 17	West Siloam Springs Casino	All Day	Financial Training
May 21-23	Sallisaw	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
June 5-6	Tahlequah	3 pm to 10 pm	Homebuyers Training
June 12, 13 & 14	Claremore	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
June 19-20	Sallisaw	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
June 26-27	Jay	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
July 10-12	Claremore	9 am to 4 pm	Homebuyers Training
July 16, 17 & 18	Sallisaw	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
July 30 and 31	Tahlequah	9 am to 4 pm	Homebuyers Training

d. Foreclosure information

1. Cumulative MAP foreclosure rate is 3.5%; this figure is based on the active foreclosure filings for MAP all MAP distributions (FY05 – FY12).
2. Housing analysts predict the **nationwide foreclosure crisis will continue for the next two to three years** as a result of lenders slowing down their foreclosure process. Lenders are holding approximately 850,000 foreclosed homes on their books and another 1.1 million homes are in earlier stages of foreclosure. Experts estimate another three million homes will be foreclosed before the housing market stabilizes.

3. Mortgage delinquencies actually fell in Q2 2011 but Housing Analysts warn against getting too excited because they believe delinquency rates are improving as a result of the sudden tightened lending standards in 2008 after 10 years of frenzied mortgage lending. Those mortgages made after 2008 under the more stringent lending standards are performing much better than loans written during the early 2000s.
4. The Federal Reserve periodically updates mortgage delinquency data by state and county. As information is updated, we will provide statistics in the monthly report. **Foreclosure rate by county Q2 2011**, all mortgage types (*source: Federal Reserve*):

County	Foreclosure Rate (%)	County	Foreclosure Rate (%)
Adair	not available	Nowata	not available
Cherokee	1.9	Ottawa	5.5
Craig	not available	Rogers	3.4
Delaware	4.1	Sequoyah	4.5
Mayes	3.6	Tulsa	2.4
McIntosh	4.4	Wagoner	2.5
Muskogee	3.0	Washington	3.4

5. **Oklahoma was the only state that did not agree to the recently announced \$25 billion mortgage relief settlement** that was reached between 49 states and the five big banks (Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase, Citigroup, Ally Financial and Wells Fargo). OK Attorney General Scott Pruitt negotiated a separate agreement with the five big banks because he believed the national settlement had gone beyond the scope of the Attorneys General. As a result, **AG Pruitt turned down \$10.2 million** that would have gone to victims of unlawful or unfair foreclosure practices; **Oklahoma will still receive the \$18.6 million that can be used for any purpose the state desires** – AG Pruitt has stated the full \$18.6 million will go directly to victims of abusive foreclosure practices.

**Who is eligible?** People are eligible if they experienced wrongful conduct during the foreclosure process (documents being signed electronically that require verification by a person, or dual tracking where the mortgage company continued the foreclosure process despite ongoing loan modification discussions). **The mortgage loan must have also been held by one of the five banks.** A restitution claim form is currently posted on the Oklahoma Attorney General’s website however exact eligibility guidelines have not been established yet. We will continue monitoring the Oklahoma Attorney General’s Office for updates and will pass on the information as soon as it becomes available.

The \$25 billion settlement is not an all cash settlement; a portion will be cash settlements that go directly to states to be used in two ways: 1) a portion of funds will go directly to foreclosure abuse victims and to establish and 2) the remaining portion will go to states to use however they see fit for any purpose. The non-cash portion of the settlement comes in the form of credits. The banks will earn “credits” for each loan that is modified, restructured or re-written mortgages to 5.25% for owners who cannot qualify for refinancing. The banks have three years to earn all their credits and if in that time, there is still a balance due, that amount will be paid as a cash settlement to the states.

Even though Oklahoma refused the national settlement, **Oklahomans will likely still benefit from loan modifications, blight remedies, short sales and principal reductions required as part of the agreement** because of the credits the five big banks will be earning.