

CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Group: Community Services/ Dept. of Transportation **Month/Year of Report:** August 2017

Group Leader: Ron Qualls **Phone:** 918-453-5248 **E-mail:** ron-qualls@cherokee.org

Comments: The Federal Highway Administration visited the CNDOT May 17th.

ADAIR COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Bell North – Right of Way sent the revisions to be made back to Red Plains March 8, 2017.
2. Bell School South – Design is complete. Right of Way Two property owners changed. We revised the easements, exhibits & notified appraiser. Appraisals completed. Acquisition has begun. NEPA is complete, received floodplain permit, still need the Section 404 permit.
3. Bidding Springs Road - Aerials have been received to begin design. Survey is currently in progress.
4. Bunch Road – Held meeting with Engineer. Decided to design a 4-span bridge to replace low water crossing.
5. Chewey Road – NEPA is completed. The firm of Smith-Roberts will start there acquisition process after appraisals are complete.
6. Dahlonega South – NEPA has been completed. The firm of Smith-Roberts started the acquisition process November 1, 2016. Four parcels out of 22 parcels have been acquired.
7. Dahlonega West- Holloway Updike and Bellen Engineers working on 60% plans.
8. Lyon South Road - Design is at 60% stage. Holloway Updike and Bellen Engineers are finalizing H&H.
9. Lyon Switch Road - Design is working on 90% plans.
10. Malloy Hollow– Design is working with environmental services to supply information needed for the 404 application. Received preliminary relocation plans from Ozark Electric and attended Cherry Tree RWD board meeting to discuss the need to relocate the existing waterline. Final plans completed. Utility easements and R/W acquisition to begin when R/W department available.
11. North Salem (Bethel Road) – Red Plains is revising the exhibits and easements.
12. Rocky Mountain School Loop Bridge – Design complete. Waiting on 404 permit for NEPA to be approved.
13. Sally Bull Hollow – Awaiting the level III archeological report so we will know how to proceed in design.
14. Smith Hollow – Red Plains is revising the utility exhibits and easements.

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CHEROKEE COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Hulbert-Lost City (Grace Huddlen) –Right of Way is currently at 78% (32 parcels out of 41 acquired). Five of the remaining parcels are Restricted Indian Land and r/w packets were submitted to RES on 5/22/2017.
2. Mud Valley Road - Aerial data has been received and submitted to Guy Engineering for design.
3. Northeast Fort Gibson- We have purchased credits from the conservation bank and have received the biological opinion. The NEPA process is complete. We are moving forward with coordinating utility relocations.
4. Ross Street- Monthly meeting for Engineering and Utility Coordination will be held on May 23, 2017 at 10 a.m. Identified utility companies along the project as LREC, AT&T, TPWA, and NOPFA. OG&E easement conflicts with roadway easement. Meeting is scheduled for June 6 at 1:30 p.m. to hopefully resolve the issue. Agreement between Cherokee Nation and the City of Tahlequah is in the Contracts Department for final review before delivering it to the City for signatures. Utility corridors have been approved by each of the utility companies. Awaiting final relocation plans from each utility. Construction plans are at 90% stage and are being reviewed by the second level engineer (CGA Engineers). Working with ODOT in regards to the US62 intersection. Guy Engineering will be acquiring the right of way on this project. They are currently preparing the r/w documents and securing appraisals.
5. Tenkiller School – Construction is -99% complete. Project contract currently in liquidated damages. Final estimate quantities being discussed.

CRAIG COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. NS-4340 Road – Right of Way sent AT&T’s packet to Real Estate Services October 22, 2016. All remaining utility easement applications on Trust Lands were submitted to the BIA for approval on 6/12/2017. Additional corporation documents were requested by the BIA for PSO. 7/11/2017 BIA approved the AT&T utility easements that cross CN Trust Land & Jerline Chisholm Brown Trust Land.

DELAWARE COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Leach/Kenwood Road –Clearing is completed. Construction is 42% complete. Contract liquidated damages began on February 11, 2017.
2. Kansas/Dry Creek – Holloway Updike & Bellen completed all ownership changes and submitted updated easements and exhibits on 7/18/2017. Appraiser is finishing appraisals. Right of Way is preparing parcel folders to begin r/w acquisition in the next few months

MUSKOGEE COUNTY PROJECTS:

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1. Northeast Fort Gibson- Utility relocation is moving forward.
2. Texanna Road – Survey has been processed. Pavement borings being performed. Preliminary design underway. Right of Way is completing title research for all property owners.

SEQUOYAH COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Dwight Mission/Sequoyah Landing Road – A preconstruction meeting has been scheduled for June 27th with awarded contractor JOB Construction. This project has a fixed completion date of July 31, 2017.
2. Moonshine Road – Utility relocation complete. Prebid conference was held July 19, 2017. Five contractors attended the prebid.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Matoka Bridge (Br. #84) – Awarded to H&H Bridge Company, construction begins April 3, 2017 and is scheduled to be completed by July 21, 2017 Cherokee Nation contributed \$700,370.24 to Washington county as per the agreement between Cherokee Nation and Washington county.

III. CHEROKEE TRANSIT SYSTEM:

There are currently two van orders: order #1 – two bi-fuel conversion vans . This delivery has been delayed due to a Ford recall. There is no current estimated delivery date. . Bids for 6 additional gasoline vans were received with John Vance Auto being the lowest bidder. Estimated time of delivery is November 29, 2017. One van order has been completed with the van being tagged and picked up by KATS. This van will travel the Stilwell to Tahlequah route and the replaced bus will be used on the Tahlequah to Catoosa route.

Ridership on all routes for the month of June 2017 were:

1. Sallisaw to Tahlequah – 141 rides
2. Pryor to Catoosa – 750 rides
3. Salina to Tahlequah – 18 rides
4. Stilwell to Tahlequah – 43 rides
5. Muskogee to Tahlequah – 137 rides
6. Tahlequah to Claremore – 42 rides
7. Tahlequah to Catoosa – 401 rides
8. Stilwell to West Siloam Springs – 263 rides
9. Tahlequah to Muskogee – 44 rides
10. Individual Demand Response Trips: 6,764

**CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL
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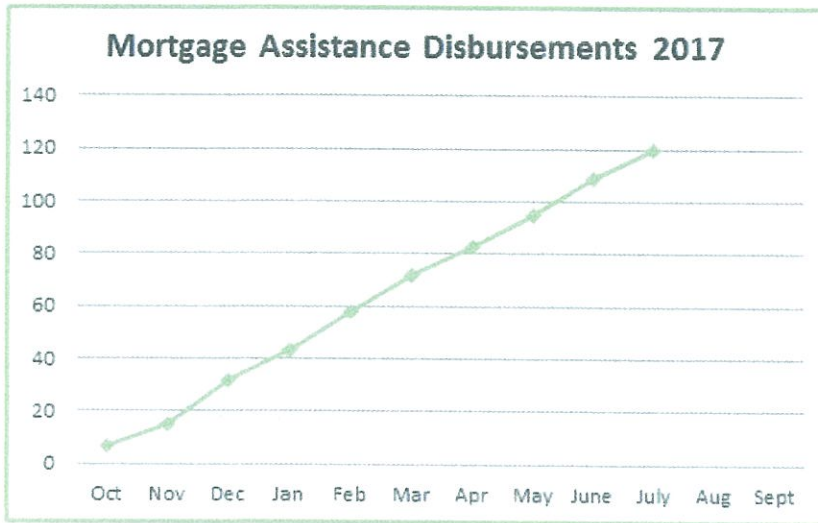
Note: Ridership reports run 2 months behind.

Commerce Group

Securing and enhancing the financial well-being of the Cherokee people, businesses and communities

Anna Knight, Executive Director
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Mortgage Assistance Program

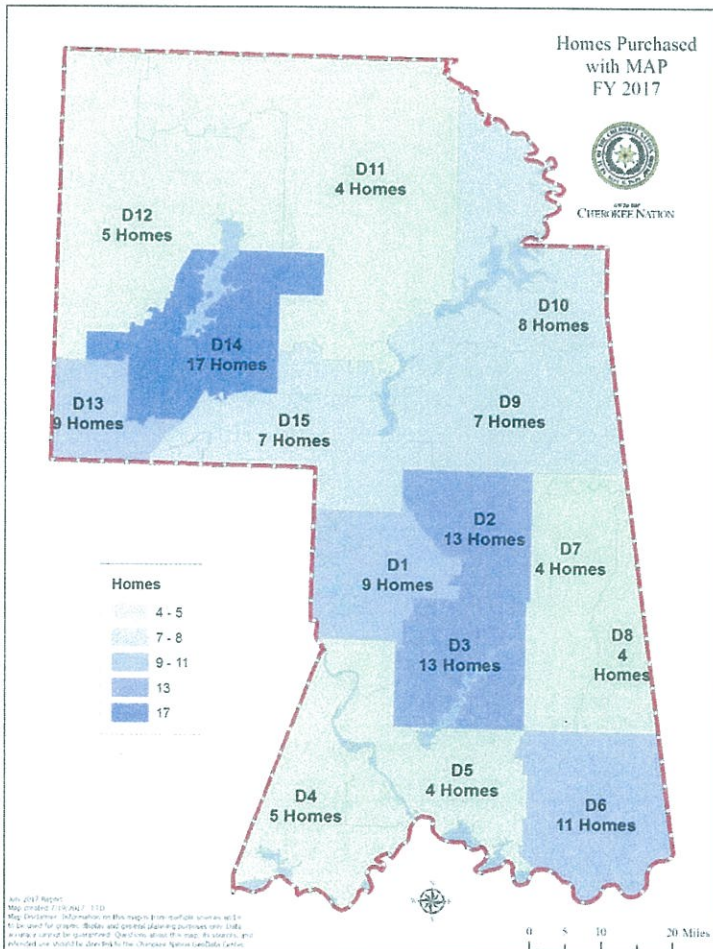


120 Families became Homeowners through financial counseling and down payment assistance.

74 families used the HUD 184 Loan Program.

MAP Household Averages

Household income	\$37,052.35
Home Price	\$104,383.18



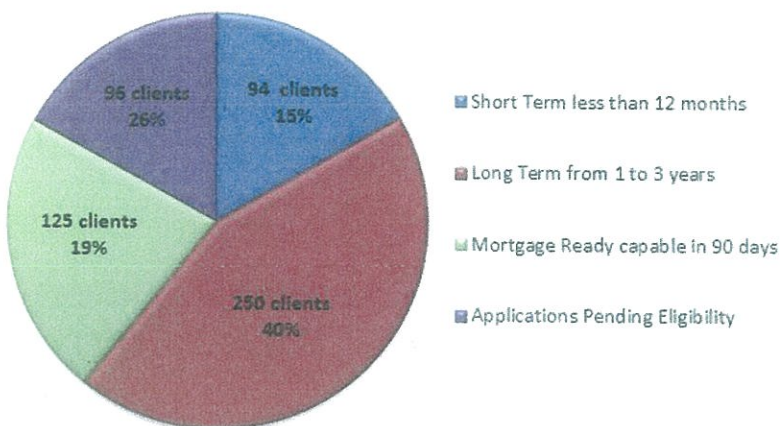
The Mortgage Assistance Program has implemented its prioritization policy. The number of eligible applicants exceeds the amount of funding available so until the end of the fiscal year, families who have previously owned a stick built home or a mobile home at any point in the past will not receive down payment assistance funds until after October 1, 2017. Families who have participated in self sufficiency counseling for at least 3 months will be exempt from the previous home ownership stipulation.

I gained more financial knowledge than I can even write down! It's a great program and I've been more cautious about my spending since participating in the Mortgage Assistance Program.

A. Arrington, Craig County Mortgage Assistance recipient

Home Buying and Financial Counseling

MAP Applications and Financial Counseling

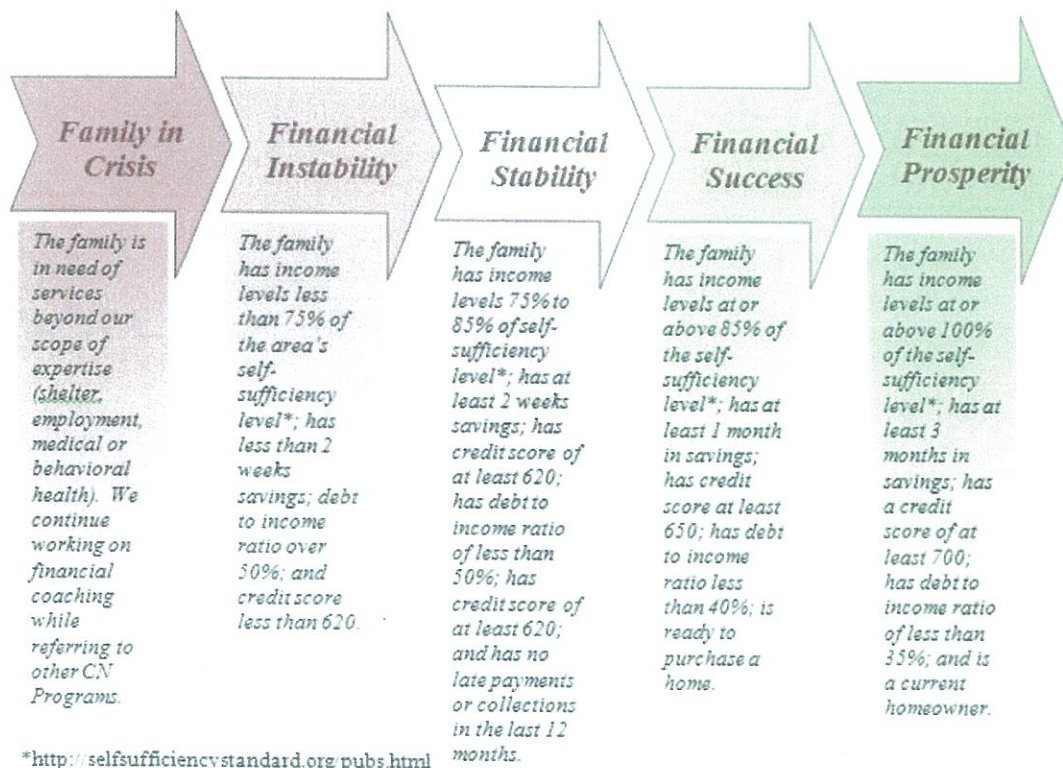


565 families are in the home buyers' pipeline, either having completed or active in financial counseling.

Since FY07, **779 families unable to obtain a non-predatory mortgage on their own** have completed self-sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage.

56 families this year have finished counseling to obtain a non-predatory mortgage.

We use a **Financial Prosperity Spectrum** to measure financial coaching and asset building for MAP families.



I learned so much about managing money in the coaching and classes.
S. Downey, Cherokee County Mortgage Assistance recipient

1,061 families have participated in financial and credit coaching this year.

526 families still actively pursuing goals

- 2% financial prosperity
- 24% financial success
- 20% financially stable
- 53% financially instable

Financial Counseling Impact

Increase to Credit Score	21 points
Debt to Income with Mortgage	30.60%
Debt to Income Reduction after Counseling	5.8%

1,303 consumer loans totaling \$1,529,960.88 have been made through the Small Business Assistance Center as of July 15th. Five of these were **Foreclosure Prevention loans totaling \$84,891.18.**

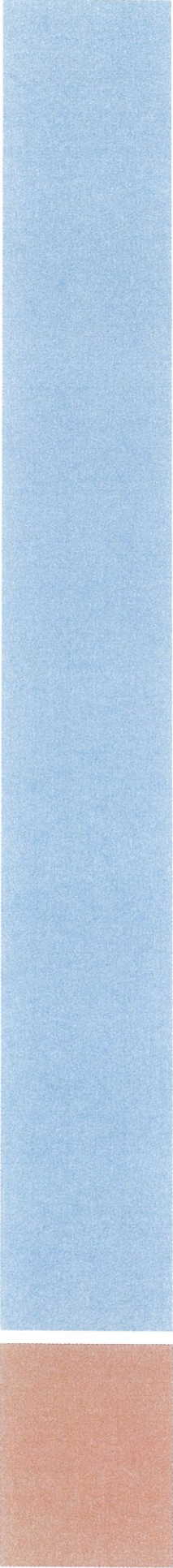
421 families are actively saving in iSave for home rehabilitation or home purchase. iSave is a *matched savings program* wherein income eligible families save a certain amount of money over a period of time and the iSave program matches the families' savings to build financial assets.

Families purchasing a home must attend an intensive **homeownership training** class. Year to date **387 families have attended these classes**, which are held throughout the Cherokee Nation.

Citizens, Cherokee Nation employees and CNB employees have the opportunity to attend financial education classes on topics ranging from spending plans, balancing checkbooks and couponing. Year to date **674 people have attended community and work based financial education classes.**

Training Schedule

Workshops and Classes			
Date	Location	Time	Workshop
August 7-9	Sallisaw	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
August 10	Claremore	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Dave Ramsey Financial Peace
August 14-15	Claremore	10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Homebuyers Training
August 16	Claremore	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Finding Saving Opportunities
August 17	Claremore	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Dave Ramsey Financial Peace
August 21-23	Tahlequah	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
August 23	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Finding Saving Opportunities
August 28	Tahlequah	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Habits that Cost You Big
August 29	Tahlequah	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Keys to Financial Success
September 5	Tahlequah	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Protect Against Identity Theft
September 6	Tahlequah	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Budgeting
September 9	Claremore	9:00 am – 6:00 pm	All Day Homebuyers Training
September 11-14	Sallisaw	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
September 18-20	Tahlequah	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
September 20	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Credit in Financial Planning
September 23	Jay	9:00 am – 6:00 pm	All Day Homebuyers Training
September 25-27	Claremore	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training



**CHEROKEE NATION
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE
MONTHLY REPORT**

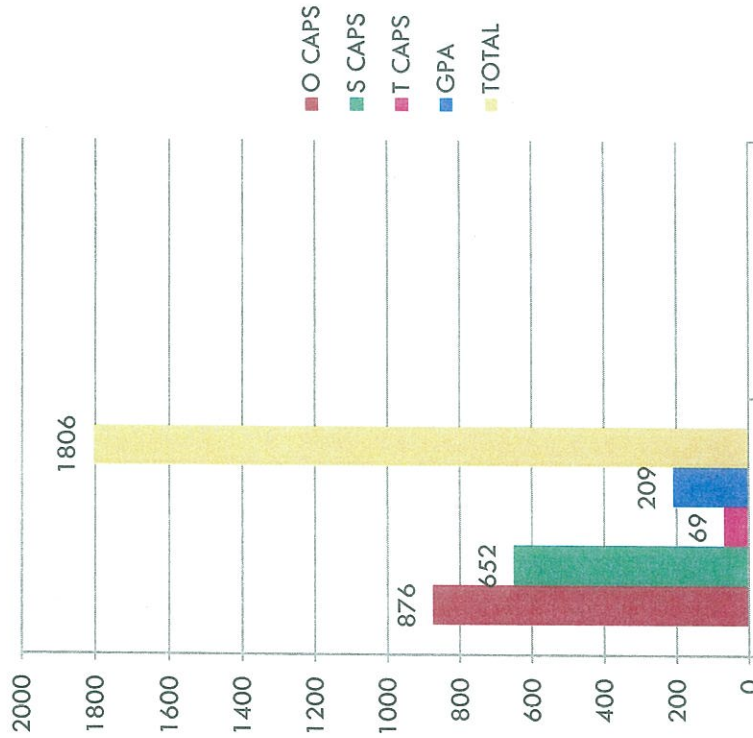
June 2017

Nikki Baker-Limore, Executive Director

Protecting Children, Families and the Nation

Month of June:
1,806 Children

with Assigned ICW Workers



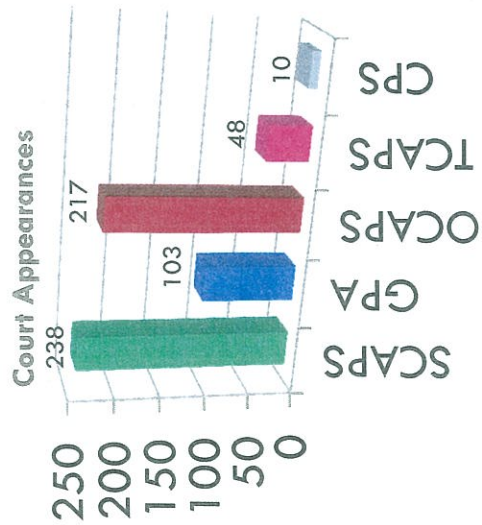
Programs with court interaction

- ▣ **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, and sometimes provide Tribal Foster Homes.
 - ▣ Provides services to the families when OKDHS fails to do so or as an alternative to OK DHS services.
- ▣ **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. Hearings are held at our Tribal Court House. Tribal Foster Homes are fully utilized.
- ▣ **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 in Tribal Court and parts of Oklahoma.
- ▣ **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

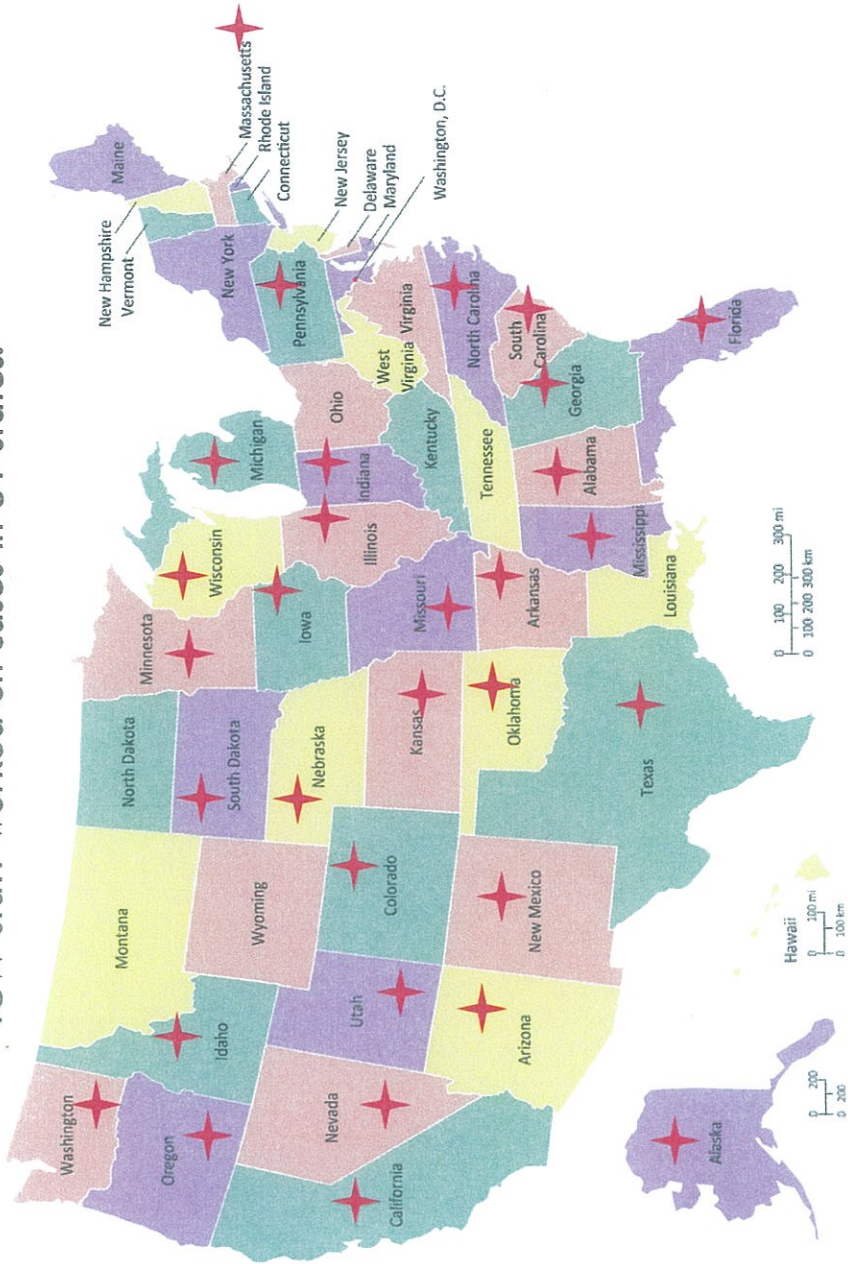
In June:

Indian Child Welfare workers went to court 616 times on behalf of Cherokee children and families.



■ SCAPS ■ GPA ■ OCAPS ■ TCAPS ■ CPS

ICW staff worked on cases in 31 states.



Efficient & Effective Work

Eligibility 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.

Month of June

Cherokee Nation received:

- State of Oklahoma – 426 notices involving 727 children
- Outside of Oklahoma – 682 notices for 989 children.
- Totalling – 1716 children and 1108 notices.
- The longest Response-to-Notice time this month was 83 days.

Prevention and Intervention

Indian Child Welfare Family Protection Services

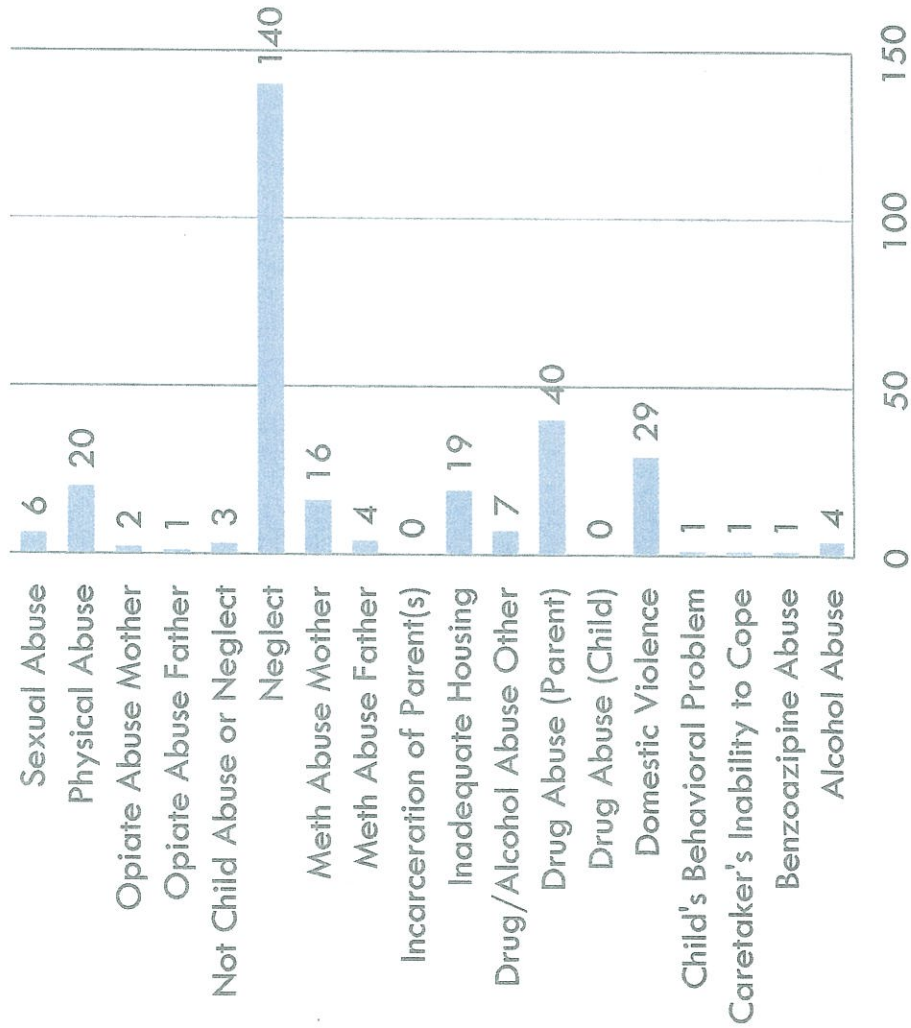
Unit (FPS) assists families in need of hands-on training to correct the conditions that lead to children being removed from their home. These services often include completing a 28 week parenting program that discusses topics like discipline, nutrition, budgeting, and housekeeping. We primarily assist all our tribal CAPS cases but can assist in State cases when a request is made. This helps insure that families have the tools they need to be reunited. We have also added Triple P Parenting curriculum to our program this year.

Month of June

FPS served 58 children and 34 families.

Child Protective Services

Types of Abuse/Neglect Reported



Month of June

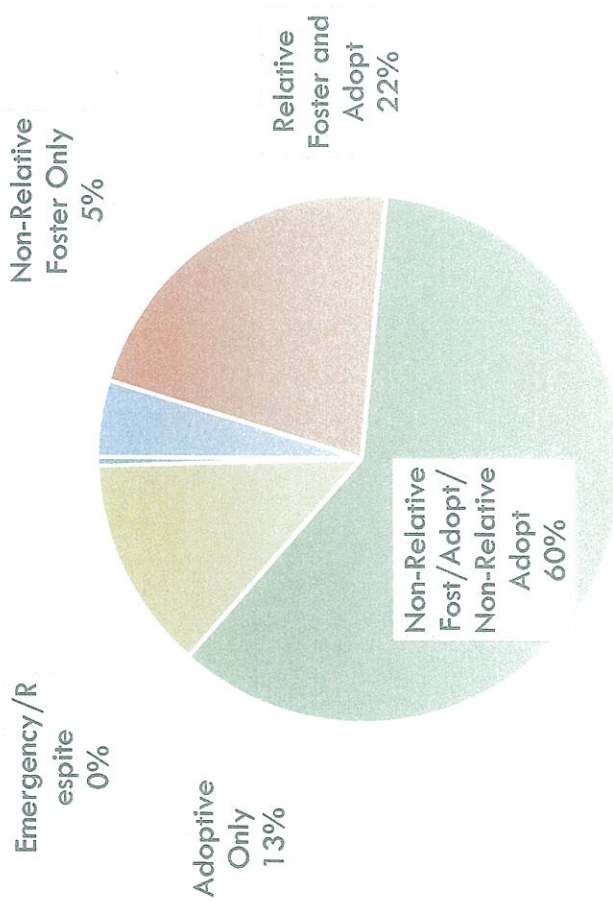
- Child Protective Services (CPS) received 221 referrals of child abuse/neglect.
- 221 referrals involved 388 children
 - 3 of the 221 were co-investigated by OKDHS and CPS
 - 9 of the 221 cases were investigated by CPS on Indian Country
- 6 Cherokee child(ren) were removed from Tribal land due to confirmed abuse/neglect.

*Almost all referrals are for a primary reason as well as neglect

CERTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT (Foster & Adoptive Homes)

CERTIFICATION SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

Homes by Type



Types of Certified Placement Resource Homes

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.

Certification Homes by Type

192 Total Homes – note many are in multiple categories

- 9 Non-Relative Foster Only Homes
- 42 Relative Foster and Adoptive
- 115 Non-Relative Foster/Adopt, Non-Relative Adoptive
- 25 Adoptive Only Home
- 1 Emergency/Respite

