

Committee: Community Service
Date: 6-29-09 Committee Date: 7-14-09

Author: Charlie Soap
Sponsor: Harley Buzzard

RESOLUTION NO. 88-09

COUNCIL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNITY SERVICES TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT APPROPRIATION OF AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of self-government in behalf of the Cherokee people;

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation is a federally recognized Indian Nation with a historic and continual government to government relationship with the United States of America;

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation recognizes a need to provide services to combat the central causes of poverty;

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation Community Services Group is applying for funding in the amount of \$452,874 to enhance the capacity of existing services that address the social, physical, and economic needs of its citizens, families, and communities.


BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION, that the Council of the Cherokee Nation authorizes an application for funding to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and that the Principal Chief (or his designee) is authorized to negotiate and execute all official documents in this regard.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the Cherokee Nation at a duly called meeting on the 13th day of July, 2009, having 14 members present, constituting a quorum, by the vote of 14 yea; 0 nay; 0 abstaining.


Meredith A. Frailey, Speaker
Council of the Cherokee Nation

ATTEST:



Don Garvin, Secretary
Council of the Cherokee Nation

Approved and signed by the Principal Chief this 17th day of July, 2009.



Chadwick Smith, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

ATTEST:



Melanie Knight, Secretary of State
Cherokee Nation

Cherokee Nation Act/Resolution Proposal Form

ADMINISTRATIVE CLEARANCE:

Program/Project Manager:
Nancy Scott 6-25-09
 Signature Date

Department Director:

 Signature Date

Group Leader:
Charlie Soap 6-25-09
 Signature Date

Finance Approval (if needed):

 Signature Date

Government Resources Group:
Brittany 4/29/09
 Signature Date

Administration Approval:
M. L. [unclear] 6/29/09
 Signature Date

Act
 Resolution

TITLE: Application for FY 2009 Community Services Block Grant Appropriation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Department Contact: Charlie Soap, Community Services Group Leader

Resolution Presenter: Charlie Soap

Council Sponsor: Harley Buzzard

NARRATIVE:
(See Attached Outline for Information Needed)

The purpose of this resolution is to approve an application for funding that would allow the Cherokee Nation Community Services Group to coordinate services and activities, across other Cherokee Nation groups, that address employment, education, better use of available income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and/or health to combat the central causes of poverty. These funds would enhance the capacity of existing programs to better address the needs of Cherokee Nation citizens, families, and communities.

The amount of the funding is \$452,874; no cash match required. Funding will be available for FY 2009 and 2010.

LEGISLATIVE CLEARANCE

Legislative Aide:
Brittany 6/29/09
 Signature/Initial Date

Standing Committee:
Community Service

7-14-09

Next Meeting Date

Chairperson:
Buzzard
 Signature/Initial Date

Returned to Presenter: _____
 Date

06-29-09P04:43 RCVD

06-25-09P04:02 RCVD

**Cherokee Nation Plan for Recovery Act Funds
“ROPE” Program
Community Services Block Grant
FY 2009 – 2010**

Goals:

The Cherokee Nation (CN) Recovery Act Plan includes the following goals and program activities for the remainder of fiscal year 2009 and all of fiscal year 2010. The purpose of the ROPE (Rise Out of Poverty forEver) program is to ameliorate the effects of poverty among young people and their families in selected Cherokee Nation schools and communities.

1. Establish partnerships with rurally, isolated county schools districts and the CN Sequoyah School to address poverty-related behaviors and mindsets that affect student learning.
2. Develop a culturally-based case management model that will increase the capacity of CN direct service workers to more effectively interrupt the cycle of poverty among tribal members.

Program Activities:

Goal 1 –Establish partnerships with rurally, isolated county school districts

- Meet quarterly with superintendents of 5 county schools districts in Adair, Cherokee, Delaware, Mayes, Sequoyah counties and the CN tribal school, Sequoyah School, to implement the Rise Out of Poverty forEver (ROPE) program to serve approximately 275 middle school (grades 6 – 8) students.
- Host a two day *Bridges Over Poverty* conference for interested school personnel (administrators, teachers, aides, parents) and select representatives from the school to participate in the advanced Training Certification of Teachers workshops.
- The Trainer and School Coordinator Consultants will implement the new curriculum, *Bridges Over Poverty* material, *Bizworld & Bizwiz*, field trips, Cherokee Job Awareness Day, business speakers, student incentives, and other special activities focused on instilling a desire for a future life out of poverty.
- Provide emergency funding to families that keep children from attending school (e.g. head lice treatment, detergent and other cleaning supplies, transportation, food, special clothing/shoes, medical supplies, temporary mental health and family counseling, etc) that are not provided by the school, CN tribal program or civic agency.

- Enhance services of the Bright Futures Truancy Prevention Program

Goal 2 Develop a culture based case management model

- Convene tribal elders, “Guardians of Cherokee Lifeways”, to work with a team of CN direct service workers to develop a new case management approach that is grounded in tribal values and cultural attributes.
- Cultural Content Writer and Facilitator will facilitate a working group and develop the case management model based on input from CN direct service programs (Education, Human Service, Career Service, Community Service, Health departments).
- Field test the new case management model hosting an overnight outdoor adventure for 6 groups of 15 young people that will feature Cherokee lifeway activities emphasizing tribal values and cultural attributes focused on instilling a desire for a future life out of poverty.
- Cultural Content Writer and Facilitator will refine the new case management model and assist in the presentation at a CN Conference.

The ROPE program will serve low-income young people and families that live in the fourteen county jurisdictional area of northeastern Oklahoma. The five rural school districts selected for implementation are in the counties with the highest Cherokee population, the lowest level of academic achievement, and the highest poverty in Oklahoma.

These two approaches are designed to impact two large service delivery systems, the rural public schools and the Cherokee Nation, which is the largest employer in northeastern Oklahoma. The goal is to change the attitude, skills and behaviors of various “gate keepers” in these two large systems to empower them to help break the cycle of poverty by helping young people and their families believe a better future exists---out of poverty.

The Cherokee Nation Community Services Department will administer the funds for the project but whenever feasible will contract directly with all consultants, the schools, and others for program implementation. No new jobs are created but contracts will be awarded to 18 individuals and 6 schools that will serve approximately 275 students and 3,000 clients of CN direct service programs.