

# Cherokee Nation Tribal Council

## Community Services Committee Report

Group: **Human Services**  
(361 Employees)

Report For: **January 2012 for March 2012 Meeting**

Ex. Dir.: **Marsha Lamb**

Contact Info: **918-453-5355 or marsha-lamb@cherokee.org**

### Program Highlights for January 2012

- 1. Office of Veterans Affairs:** The Tribal Veteran's Representative received 33 calls for services in January. He also met with 82 veterans in person and had 213 outreach with other providers includes Creek Nation Stomp Dance and Broken Arrow (Readjustment Counselor. T.V.R. met with Veterans in Stilwell, Jay, Grove, Muskogee, and Colcord.
- 2. Healing to Wellness Court Program:** There were 11 youth participating in the voluntary Reclaiming futures. Eight were in outpatient treatment and 3 were inpatient at Jack Brown Treatment Center. Three were participating in the drug/alcohol counseling group in Jay, Ok – Participants are referred by Delaware Co. Office of Juvenile Affairs. There were 24 home visits. Eight have exhibited a reduction in substance use.
- 3. Bright Futures (Truancy Prevention):** The Bright Futures program is serving 10 youth in the month of January. There were 10 families served and no completions. Ten youth have shown improvement in their attendance. There has been one Court referral. An officer from the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service is now working with the schools and the Bright Futures Program to issue citations and make sure parents are notified when they are to appear in Court.
- 4. Child Care & Development:** There were 215 resource and referral calls make in January. We have 61 providers in training. A total of 225 child care applications were taken during the month of January. Resource center staff attended training for possible participation in "Mind in the Making, Seven Essential Skills Training."
- 5. ICW Child Protective Services (CPS):** There were 160 referrals. Of the 160, 5 were for compliance issues. Fifty-Five were alleged substance abuse and 21 alleged domestic violence. No referrals alleging casino involvement. 46 referrals alleged physical abuse and 140 alleging neglect, 50 alleged sexual abuse. There were 35 Families First referrals. There were 5 conjoint investigations conducted with Delaware County. There was 1 placed in a Foster home. None were returned to their parents. One case went to CPS-FPS rather than court. There was 1 Life book issued this month.
- 6. ICW Court Advocacy and Permanency (CAPS) Units:** There are 1,342 Cherokee children with assigned ICW workers. ICW workers were involved in 284 hearings regarding these children in January. These children and cases are from the Guardianship/Private Adoption, Tribal, State, and Out-Of-District Units.
- 7. ICW Mayes County Prevention Program:** The MCPP provided services to 79 children and 57 adults in January. Forty Six families received services.
- 8. John Ketcher Youth Shelter:** Twenty-two youth spent time at the John Ketcher Youth Shelter in January, 9 were new admissions and 13 were carried over from December. Out of 22 youth 21 were successfully placed back in the home or remained in a home / safe placements. Four remained at the shelter as of January 31.

# Cherokee Nation Tribal Council

## Community Services Committee Report

**Juvenile first time offender program:** Thirteen carried over from December. There were 11 sessions to a total of 10 participants. Nine successful completions. There were 8 referrals. Twelve expected to complete in January,

9. **Family Assistance (Food Distribution):** There were 9,644 individuals served this month.
10. **Family Assistance (Elderly Nutrition):** There were 2,545 hot meals served at Elderly Nutrition Sites.
11. **Family Assistance (LIHEAP):** There were 860 households served for Winter/Summer Crisis...
12. **Child Support Services:** The distribution for December was 192,137.. There are a total of 2,800 child support cases. Staff were provided an internal training regarding the dynamics of Domestic violence. It is important for our case management staff to understand this dynamic as we encounter clientele who have either had this type of relationship with non custodial party or currently are involved in this type of relationship. Because of our interaction with them, we have the ability to provide referrals to them for assistance in this arena.
13. **Success stories:** A single dad of five young children was homeless in a shelter and without employment. He has been actively working with his MCPP worker on employment, housing, child care, transportation, and community resources. The results: he moved into a house about a week ago, had furniture donated to his family, he has gained full-time employment, transportation and child care has been established. He worked very hard to rebuild his life from dire circumstances to self-sufficiency. The MCPP will be completed soon.

**Group:** Community Services

**Month/Year of Report:**

February 2012

**Group Leader:** David Southerland

**Phone:** 453-5248

**E-mail:** david-southerland@cherokee.org

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Water & Sanitation**

- Delaware County—Award letters sent out to Texas AquaStore & D & E Construction for Kenwood waterline and water tower project
- Completed installation of new lift station at Houston Johnson Heights in Warner.
- Leach WL approx 28% of Self Help portion is complete.
- Sent out letters to RWD’s and PWA’s to solicit water and wastewater projects for the FY13 HIS funding cycle.

**Youth Development**

- Cherokee Heights activities; did clay work, picture frames, puzzles, and bird feeders. Had 48 youth, 2 parents and 4 CYD staff
- Greasy activity; made bead necklaces. Had 2 youth and 3 CYD staff
- Mailed out 135 flyers about February youth activities for Cherokee Heights, Greasy and Kenwood.

**Cherokee First/Community Youth**

- Assisted approximately 1612 clients through walk in or phone calls
- Processed 5 sports teams, 138 youth applications and zero adult applications

**1392 Community Youth Fund Applications Funded FY2012**

**263 Adult Applications Funded 2012**

Adair County—535	Nowata County—27	Adair County—73	Nowata County—12
Cherokee County—578	Rogers County—20	Cherokee County—136	Rogers County—1
Craig County—22	Sequoyah County—113	Craig County—0	Sequoyah County—20
Delaware County—109	Tulsa County—18	Delaware County—11	Tulsa County—0
Mayes County—61	Wagoner County—9	Mayes County—6	Wagoner County—0
Muskogee County—35	Washington County—2	Muskogee County—4	Washington County—0
McIntosh County—0	Ottawa County—1	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

**Community Work/Volunteer Program/Community Building**

**Community Building/Community Work**

- Community Building & Community Work received 42 applications for funding.

**Cotta**

- Awarded 28 sub-awards.

## **FUTURE PLANS/NEW INITIATIVES**

### **Youth Development**

- Continue working with Cherokee Heights, Kenwood and Greasy youth activities

### **Roads:**

#### **Adair County Projects:**

- Nicut South—Design specifications are updated and plans have been submitted for final check.
- Little Lee Creek Bridge: The design is complete and the project is scheduled for advertisement February 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Mayes County Projects:**

- Cedar Crest Bridge—Paradigm Construction has been selected as the contractor for this project. Contractor has 187 calendar days from the date of Notice to Proceed to complete the project

**Cherokee Transit System:** Ridership on five current routes for May were: Sallisaw to Tahlequah—267 rides, Pryor to Catoosa—932 rides, Salina to Tahlequah—418 rides, Stilwell to Tahlequah—372 rides, Muskogee to Tahlequah—488 rides, Tahlequah to Claremore—346 rides, Jay to Tahlequah—300 rides, Individual Demand Trips -14 rides.

## **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 100-7 (start date 06/2011) Home is 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 75% complete
- Project 100-9 (start date 05/2011) Home is complete.

### **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 90% complete.

### **District 5—DELAWARE**

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

### **District 7—ROGERS**

- Project 700-3 House is dried in. House is at 50% 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 80% complete

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

**Group:** Housing Services **Month/Year of Report:** March 12, 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	
	64	Rehab	
<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>		

Housing Authority Board meeting for March is scheduled for March 20, 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
	Delaware	10/19/2011	9/8/2006	MAP	\$ 7,263.00
	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
	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
<b>New</b>	Sequoyah	2/9/2012	1/31/2008	MAP	\$ 8,888.00

**b.) Accomplishments/Current Events**

	<i>Families Participating at October 1, 2011</i>	<i>New Participants in FY 2012</i>	<i>New Participants this Month</i>	<i>Total Families Served in FY 2012</i>
<i>Program</i>				
Community Shield	2,300	84	15	2,399
Mutual Help	1,317	8	3	1,328
Low Rent	805	67	18	890
Title VI	270	-	-	270
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,692</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4,887</b>

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

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

<i>County</i>	<i>Projected FY 2012</i>	<i>Completed Since October 1, 2011</i>	<i>Completed this Month</i>	<i>Total Completed FY 2012</i>
Adair	32	33	9	42
Cherokee	54	26	2	28
Craig	11	3	2	5
Delaware	32	18	2	20
Mayes	25	11	2	13
McIntosh	2	0	0	0
Muskogee	16	6	4	10
Nowata	6	5	0	5
Ottawa	2	1	1	2
Rogers	34	4	3	7
Sequoyah	34	31	8	39
Tulsa	37	3	2	5
Wagoner	5	1	0	1
Washington	21	3	2	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>182</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.

**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.

Granddaughter is housing services employee Lori Dorr

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

**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: March 2012

Group Leader: Anna Knight

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**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	43 families have been housed
Homeownership Training	a. # of Families Attending Homeownership Training	a. 800	a. 200
	b. % satisfaction	b. 95%	b. 100%
Families Increasing Financial Management Skills	a. # of Families Increasing Skills	a. 450	a. 1,156
	b. % satisfaction	b. 95%	b. 99.95%
Self Sufficiency Counseling – Household Budgeting, Debt Reduction, & Credit Coaching	# of Families Actively Pursuing Goals or Achieved Goals	750 Families	470 Families
		a. Actively Pursuing	a. 453 families actively pursuing goals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11% mortgage ready</li> <li>• 11% short-term</li> <li>• 61% long-term</li> <li>• 3% AMP</li> <li>• 11% credit counseling</li> </ul>
		b. Achieved Goals	b. 17 families have completed self sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage
Attrition Rate	% of Families Abandoning Counseling	< 20% Attrition Rate	21.19% Attrition Rate
Market Rate Qualifiers	% of Families Qualifying for Market Rate Loans	75% Market Rate	94.59% 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 4.0% 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	125

b. Notable accomplishments

1. Program to date, **352 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 27 families facing foreclosure. **Staff have helped 3 families save their home from foreclosure.** 19 families are still in the process of trying to save their homes; 3 families have been referred to outside sources for assistance; 2 families have dropped out of the program.
3. The **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program** kicked off January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cherokee Nation staff are offering free tax preparation and filing services in twelve communities throughout tax season.



So far, **611 taxpayers have taken advantage of this service** and have received over **\$1.3 million in refunds** with over \$342,000 in Earned Income Tax Credit.

Tax Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 to date
Returns Filed	2,311	1,785	2,118	2,681	611
Total Refunds	\$1,541,835	\$1,946,918	\$2,650,028	\$3,574,658	\$1,319,282

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
March 3 – 5	Claremore	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
March 3 – 5	Sallisaw	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
March 29	Tahlequah	4 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
March 31	Tahlequah	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
April 9 – 11	Jay	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
April 9 – 11	Claremore	5 pm to 9 pm	Homebuyers Training
April 23 – 24	Sallisaw	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training
April 23 – 25	Tahlequah	10 am to 5 pm	Homebuyers Training

1. Commerce has requested funding to provide **MAP to 255 families in FY12**. Commerce has only operated the Mortgage Assistance Program for 2 ½ years, and two of those years have likely been skewed because of the tax incentives in FY10 and then the reduced number of buyers in the market during FY11. We believe that FY12 should put us back on track with Mortgage Assistance Program performance since its inception; program to date, on average 240 families utilize MAP annually.

d. Foreclosure information

1. Cumulative MAP foreclosure rate is 4.0%; this figure is based on the active foreclosure filings for MAP all MAP distributions (FY05 – FY11).
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.