

Cherokee Nation Tribal Council

Community Services Committee Report

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

Report For: **December 2009 for January 2010 Meeting**

Group

Leader: **Norma Merriman**

Contact Info: **453-5787** or nmerriman@cherokee.org

Program Highlights for December 2009

1. **Office of Veterans Affairs:** The Tribal Veteran's Representative received 30 calls for services in December. He also met with 31 veterans in person and had 10 community outreach events.
2. **Healing to Wellness Court Program:** The HTWCP currently has four program participants. They received 2 new referrals in December.
3. **Bright Futures (Truancy Prevention):** The Bright Futures program received 9 new referrals in December, all from Cave Springs Schools.
4. **Child Care & Development:** 171 applications for financial assistance were taken in December. Payments were made for 1401 children. In FY09 more than 3800 children and their families were served by the Child Care and Development Center.
5. **Office of Child Support Enforcement:** From 10/1/09 to 12/31/10, the CNOSE has collected \$941,699.00.
6. **ICW Angel Tree:** The Angel Tree provided gifts for 1595 children this season, the most ever. One contributor donated a new Nintendo Wii gaming system which was given to the children of a Day Laborer whose home was burglarized and had lost all the children's gifts. The Wii helped make up for what was lost and the children were very happy.
7. **ICW Child Protective Services (CPS):** There were 5 referrals of abuse or neglect from Indian Country in December. Four children were removed from their family and placed in Cherokee Nation Foster Care.
8. **ICW Court Advocacy and Permanency (CAPS) Units:** There are 910 Cherokee children with assigned ICW workers. ICW workers were in court 145 times in December. These children and cases are from the Tribal, State, and Out-Of-District Units.
9. **ICW Mayes County Prevention Program:** The MCPP provided services to 104 children and 89 adults in December. There were 73 community presentations attended by 1928 community members.
10. **John Ketcher Youth Shelter:** 16 youth spent time at the John Ketcher Youth Shelter in November. The First Offender Program served 7 participants and had 4 new referrals.
11. **Family Assistance (Food Distribution):** 11,306 individuals received Food Distribution in December, up nearly 300 from November.
12. **Family Assistance (Elderly Nutrition):** 1926 hot meals were served at Elderly Nutrition Sites, up more than 100 from November and 1436 meals were delivered in December.
13. **Family Assistance (LIHEAP):** 1193 LIHEAP payments were processed in December and about 450 more will be processed in January. There should also be a supplemental heating assistance payment for the elderly and disabled in February. This supplemental payment will be at the same level as the original heating payment.

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Future Plans/New Initiatives:

None to report this month.

Success Stories:

MCP: (Andrea Schooley) This worker's client quit school in the 9th grade and began GED classes at the age of 18. Client's family and friends told him they didn't believe he would be able to pass the GED test because no one else in his family has ever graduated from High School or received a GED. When client took his test, he had been struggling with several health issues and a disability which he decided he did not want to stand in the way of proving everyone wrong. The client took his GED test at the end of November along with his wife. When the results came back, the client passed his test. The client stated that he set his goal and believed that he could do it.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION: During part of the last week December and part of the first week in January Tim Kidd, Assistant Manager, Shawna Pritchett, Data Entry Technician and Ella Sands, Assistant Manager provided Technical Assistance to the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians in Choctaw, MS. They have renovated their warehouse/distribution center into a self-service food center. This is the first food center in Mississippi and in Oklahoma food centers are in Cherokee Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Muscogee Creek, Inter-Tribal Council, Inc., Seminole Nation, Sac and Fox Nation and in New Mexico Sandoval Indian Pueblos, Inc., and Zuni Pueblo and Acoma Pueblo is being completed. In 1993 the Cherokee Nation was the first to introduce the self-service food center in place of tailgate sites and handing food already boxed to participants.

ICW Tribal CAPS: ICW will be requesting dismissal of a tribal case that has been in the court system since 2006. When this case opened it was due to the natural parents having a severe drug addiction. The natural parents had another child born in 2008. This child was taken into custody at birth due to being born positive to numerous illegal substances. After the second child was born the parents realized that ICW was going to have no choice in recommending other permanent plans for their children if they did not straighten up their lives. This is when the natural parents entered into drug rehabilitation and took the program very seriously. The parents have been clean and sober for over a year now. They have a nice home with nice furnishings, they have two cars and both parents are employed. They are taking wonderful care of their children. They thank Cherokee Nation ICW for seeing something in them that they could not see themselves and not giving up on them before they were able to straighten out their lives and be the parents their children deserve.

Group: Community Services

Month/Year of Report:

January 2010

Group Leader: Charlie Soap

Phone: 453-5707

E-mail: Charlie-soap@cherokee.org

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Water & Sanitation

- Cherokee Co. RWD #3 Vance Springs ARRA project approximately 50% complete
- Hwy 10 South Waterline approximately 70% complete

Community Works, Community Buildings

- Applications have been reviewed and approved by the Group Leader, Charlie Soap. Funded 18 organizations from 8 districts.

Youth Development

- Belfonte Community youth activity on December 28; 9 youth, 3 adults and 3 staff
- Cherokee Heights youth activities in December; 52 youth, 2 parents and 3 staff

Cherokee First/Community Youth

- Processed 168 Community Youth Fund applications and 2 Adult application
- Assisted approximately 722 clients through walk in or phone calls

COTTA

- Received 26 sub-award applications

FUTURE PLANS/NEW INITIATIVES

Water & Sanitation

- Working with DOI-Bureau of Reclamation on Water Planning Study for Southern Delaware County

Community Works, Community Buildings

- Communities have been notified whether they were funded or not and the amount they were awarded

Roads

- Greasy Rehab-Adair County; project scheduled to complete by March 21, 2010
- Rice-Woodard-Cherokee County; Glover and Associates was selected as contractor and expects work to begin on January 18, 2010

Youth Development

- Continue working with Rocky Ford and Cherokee Heights groups

COTTA

- Begin awarding funds on February 1, 2010

STATUS ON REMAINING PROJECTS:

Adair County Projects:

- Honey Hill Road – telephone is the only utilities left to be relocated and is currently underway

Mayes County Projects:

- Cedar Crest Road and Bridge – All utilities have been relocated with the exception of a waterline and telephone

SELF HELP HOUSING AND BUILDING PACKAGES

1/18/2010

- [REDACTED] – (start date 06/09) House is dried in, sheet rock hanging is completed, taping has complete, and interior painting has started. House is at 60% complete
- [REDACTED] – (start date 07/09) all interior paint, trim, door's, floor covering and electric are complete. Septic system is installed. House is at 92 % complete
- [REDACTED] – (start date 08/09) all sheet rock is complete and textured, painting, floor coverings in the kitchen and bath are complete. House is at 67% complete
- [REDACTED] – (start date 10/09) house is dried in, with the roof complete. Plumbing, electrical and HVAC has been roughed in. Sheetrock has been installed and taping has begun. House is at 58% complete
- [REDACTED] – all development work is complete and pad work will start during the week of 1/18/10, weather permitting
- [REDACTED] – environmental review is complete and development work has begun
- [REDACTED] – (start date 09/09) house is dried in all roofing and siding is complete, plumbing, electrical, and HVAC have been roughed in and sheet rock installation is complete, taping, mudding and texturing of the walls are complete and painting has begun. House is at 66% complete
- [REDACTED] – title work has begun
- [REDACTED] – (start date 11/09) House is dried in, electrical and plumbing rough in has started. House is at 38% complete
- [REDACTED] – had to order an archeological survey, still awaiting results
- [REDACTED] – pad has been constructed and awaiting compaction results. House is at 6% complete
- [REDACTED] – survey is complete, title work has begun
- [REDACTED] – ordered survey and title work
- [REDACTED] – survey is complete and title work has begun
- [REDACTED] – survey is complete and title work has begun
- [REDACTED] – ordered survey and title work
- [REDACTED] – ordered survey and title work

Stilwell Group

- [REDACTED] – survey work has begun on new site

Kenwood Group

- [REDACTED] – (start date 11/09) Footings have been poured, forms are built and under slab plumbing is being installed. House is at 14% complete
- [REDACTED] – (start date 12/09) Footings have been poured, forms are built and under slab plumbing is being installed. House is at 14% complete
- [REDACTED] – (start date 04/08) Completed 01/2010

Dry Creek Group

- [REDACTED] – (start date 09/07) Awaiting homeowner to conduct final inspection and sign mortgage documents. House is complete.

CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Group: Housing Services **Month/Year of Report:** February-10

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

I. Budget Highlights

Housing Services Employees:

12 Administrative
54 Housing Management
47 Low Rent
70 Rehab

Total 183

Housing Authority Board meeting is February 16, 2010 in the Alyene Hogner Conference Room. The meeting will be at noon.

II. Program Highlights

a.) Foreclosure Report

	COUNTY	FORECLOSURE NOTICE RECEIVED	DATE ASSISTANCE RECEIVED	TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	AMOUNT DUE CHEROKEE NATION
	Cherokee	10/26/09	03/23/07	MAP	\$ 6,763.00
New	Cherokee	12/28/09	06/01/08	MAP	\$ 12,513.00
New	Cherokee	01/20/10	08/01/07	MAP	\$ 11,263.00
New	Cherokee	12/30/09	12/19/07	MAP	\$ 11,888.00
	McIntosh	12/08/09	03/27/07	MAP	\$ 10,888.00
	Rogers	10/27/2009	7/1/2001	MAP	\$ 3,333.25
	Sequoyah	10/22/2009	2/1/2008	MAP	\$ 12,388.00
New	Sequoyah	12/14/09	08/14/07	MAP	\$ 11,388.00
	Washington	10/13/2009	1/2/2009	MAP	\$ 13,763.00

b.) Accomplishments/Current Events

Program	Families Participating at October 1, 2009	New Participants	New Participants this Month	Total Families Served
Community Shield	2,594	74	15	2,683
Mutual Help	1,613	18	3	1,634
Low Rent	971	53	12	1,036

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

Title VI	292	2	-	294
Assumable Mortgage	21	-	1	22
Total	5,491	147	31	5,669

Rehab/Emergency/Handicap Assessability/LBP

<i>County</i>	<i>Projected FY 2010</i>	<i>Completed Since October 1, 2009</i>	<i>Completed this Month</i>	<i>Total Completed FY 2010</i>
Adair	53	18	4	22
Cherokee	82	13	13	26
Craig	15	0	0	0
Delaware	53	12	4	16
Mayes	39	8	4	12
McIntosh	5	0	0	0
Muskogee	24	5	0	5
Nowata	10	1	1	2
Ottawa	10	0	0	0
Rogers	49	1	0	1
Sequoyah	53	28	8	36
Tulsa	58	2	1	3
Wagoner	5	1	0	1
Washington	29	1	1	2
Total	485	90	36	126

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.

Nathalie Clark	Cousin to Housing Services Employee Cassandra Lynch
Mamie Bowman	Cousin to Housing Services Employee Cassandra Lynch

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.

Little John Bolin	Cousin to Housing Services Employee Cassandra Lynch
Deloris Patterson	Cousin to Housing Services Employee Jennifer Fowler

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.

Group: Commerce

Month/Year of Report: February 2010

Group Leader: Anna Knight

Phone: 453-5532

Email: aknight@cherokee.org

Budget Highlights

None

Program Highlights

a. Balanced Scorecard Measures

Objective	Metric	2010 Goal	Year to Date Achievement Notes/Comments
Families Housed	# of Families Obtaining Homeownership	300 Housed	111 families have been housed
Homeownership Training	a. # of Families Attending Homeownership Training	a. 800	a. 253
	b. % satisfaction	b. 95%	b. 100%
Families Increasing Financial Management Skills	a. # of Families Increasing Skills	a. 450	a. 60
	b. % satisfaction	b. 95%	b. Not available yet
Self Sufficiency Counseling – Household Budgeting, Debt Reduction, & Credit Coaching	# of Families Actively Pursuing Goals or Achieved Goals	750 Families	539 Families
		a. Actively Pursuing	a. 485 Families actively pursuing goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1% mortgage ready• 19% short-term• 70% long-term• 5% AMP• 6% credit counseling
		b. Achieved Goals	b. 54 families have completed self sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage
Attrition Rate	% of Families Abandoning Counseling	< 20% Attrition Rate	26% Attrition Rate
Market Rate Qualifiers	% of Families Qualifying for Market Rate Loans	75% Market Rate	79.1% Market Rate Qualifiers – does not include mobile home purchases
Families Housed	MAP Foreclosure Rate in Relation to Oklahoma	Within 3%	State Foreclosure rate (2Q 2009) 4.3% MAP Foreclosure rate 4.9%
Match Savings Program	# active participants	200	112

b. Notable accomplishments

1. Program to date, **229 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 have **worked with 36 clients facing foreclosure**. Staff **obtained loan modifications, repayment plans, or refinances for 7 families** thus saving their homes from foreclosure. Staff are **still working with 18 clients** to help them avoid foreclosure if at all possible. Seven families will lose their home to foreclosure because they were either unable to obtain a loan modification, did not have the income to support a mortgage payment, or owed more on the home than it was actually worth. Self Sufficiency staff worked with a lender for 1 family to get the lender to agree to a short sale as opposed to foreclosure.

c. Future plans/new initiatives

1. Commerce is organizing the Cherokee Nation **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance** program this year. Volunteers will be available in 17 locations to provide free tax preparation services began January 18th. Between January 18th and 26th, eighty-four families benefitted from free tax preparation.
2. Commerce will provide **household financial management classes** to CNI employees in the coming months.
3. Commerce is partnering with Northeastern State University to provide in depth **financial planning classes** beginning in mid March.
4. Commerce has a **Family Advocate** in the Collinsville/Bartlesville office starting February 1, 2010. A Grand Opening for this office will be scheduled in mid/late February. The Bartlesville office will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 4 pm and the Collinsville office will be open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 am to 5 pm.
5. Commerce will provide the **Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University** course in the Tahlequah area starting February 2010.

Housing Workshops			
Date	Location	Time	Workshop
02/02 and 02/03	Claremore Housing Offices	10 am to 5 pm	Homeownership Training
02/04 and 02/06	Tahlequah Housing Offices	10 am to 5 pm	Homeownership Training
02/08, 02/09, and 02/10	Jay Housing Offices	5pm to 9pm	Homeownership Training
02/09 and 02/11	Sallisaw Housing Offices	10 am to 5 pm	Homeownership Training
02/16, 02/17, and 02/18	Sallisaw Housing Offices	5pm to 9pm	Homeownership Training
02/20 and 02/21	Claremore Housing Offices	10 am to 5 pm	Homeownership Training
02/22 and 02/23	Jay Housing Offices	10 am to 5 pm	Homeownership Training
02/23, 02/24, and 02/25	Tahlequah Housing Offices	5pm to 9pm	Homeownership Training