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CHEROKEE NATION©

HUMAN SERVICES

Tribal Council Monthly Report

November 2017

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HUMAN SERVICES

Tribal Council Monthly Report

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CHEROKEE NATION©

HUMAN SERVICES

Number of Employees	267
Number of Vacancies	22
Number of Volunteers	39

Human Services Announcements:

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving from Human Services!

Council Notes:

YOUTH SERVICES & SPECIAL PROJECTS

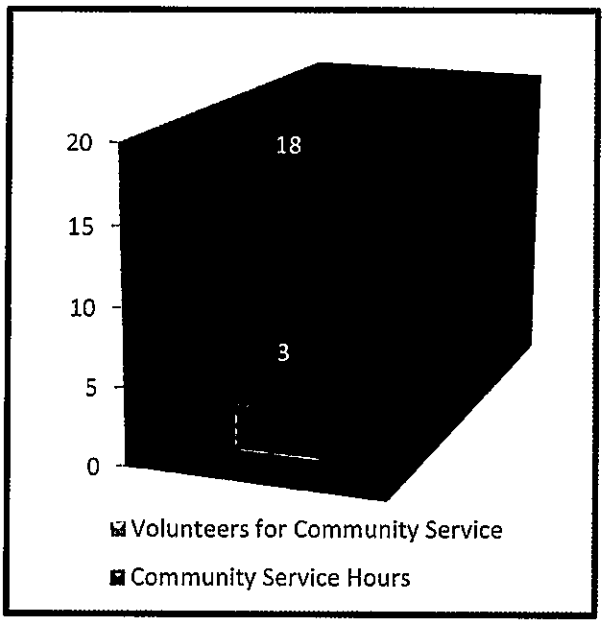
Director - Jennifer Kirby

Number of Employees	30
Number of Vacancies	1
Number of Volunteers	0

Programs
John A. Ketcher Youth Services Center
Youth Services
Cherokee PARENTS
Veteran's Center

John A. Ketcher Youth Services Center :

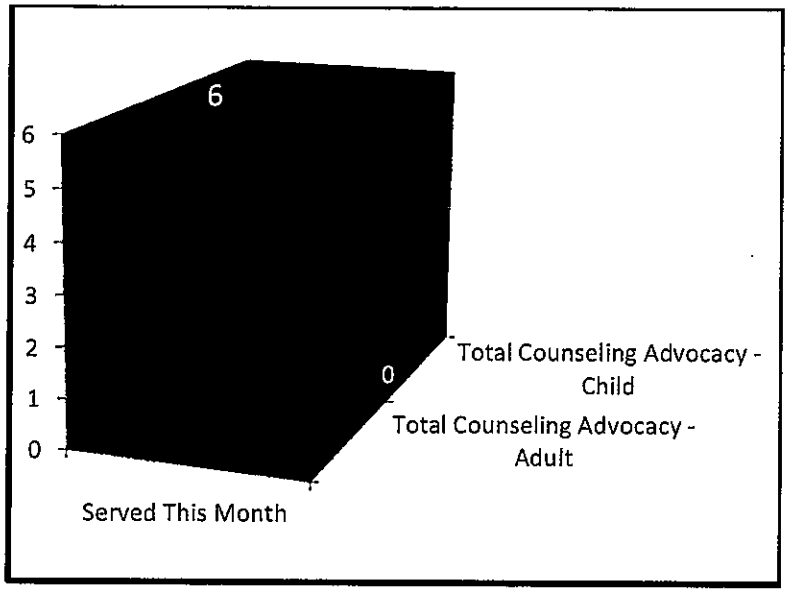
Young people served	10
Admissions	7

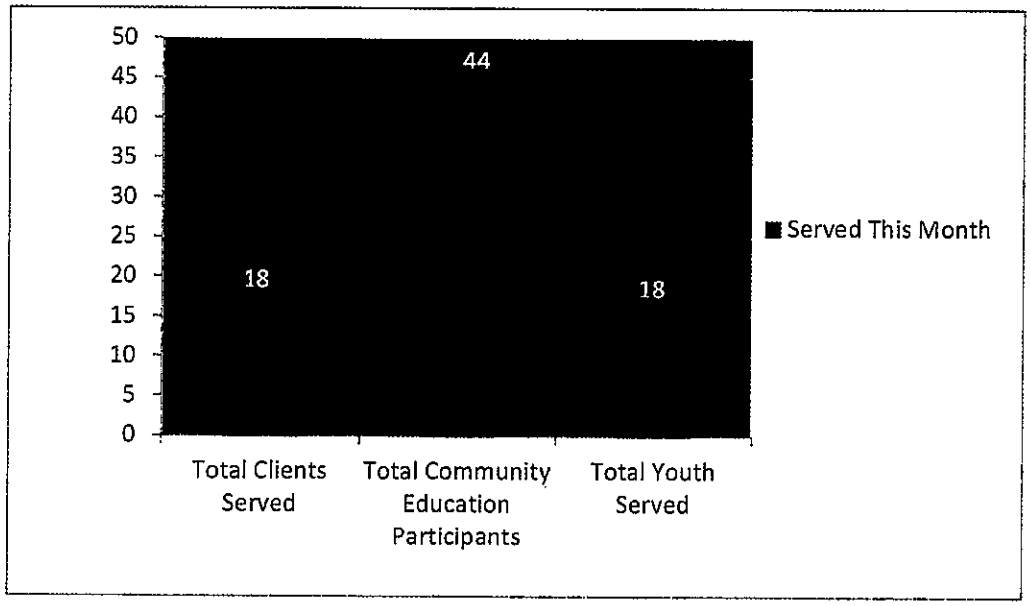


YOUTH SERVICES & SPECIAL PROJECTS

Youth Services :

Total Community Events & Presentations	0

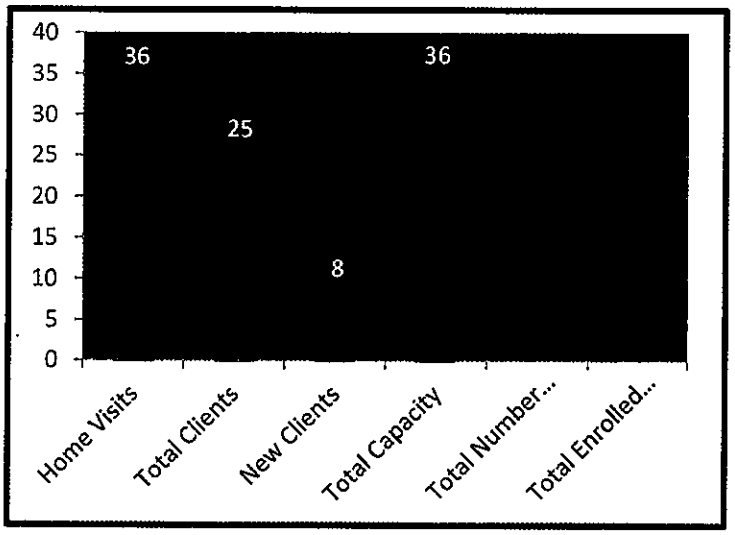




YOUTH SERVICES & SPECIAL PROJECTS

Cherokee PARENTS :

Total Clients	25



Child Care Development Centers :

• Stilwell - Our Family Thanksgiving dinner was held on 11-16-17. The staff received training on 11-20 through 22nd. The monthly drills were conducted. Environmental Health conducted an inspection.

• Tahlequah - Thanksgiving lunch for parents. Still completing the remodeling.

• Resource & Refferal - CN Community mtg Roland, CN Community mtg Baron, CN Community mtg Stilwell, CN Community mtg Sallisaw, Native American Heritage Day storytelling, Scrubby Bear presenations (9 sites for approx. 215 children), Final TELI meeting, TCC Advisory Board meeting.

• Licensing -LCW attended 102-477 Training, Stars Hearing, Vinita Comm. Mt, Rogers Co. ECC Ref: Cherokee Conn (3) Warmline(3) NICCA BOD, NARA Mt

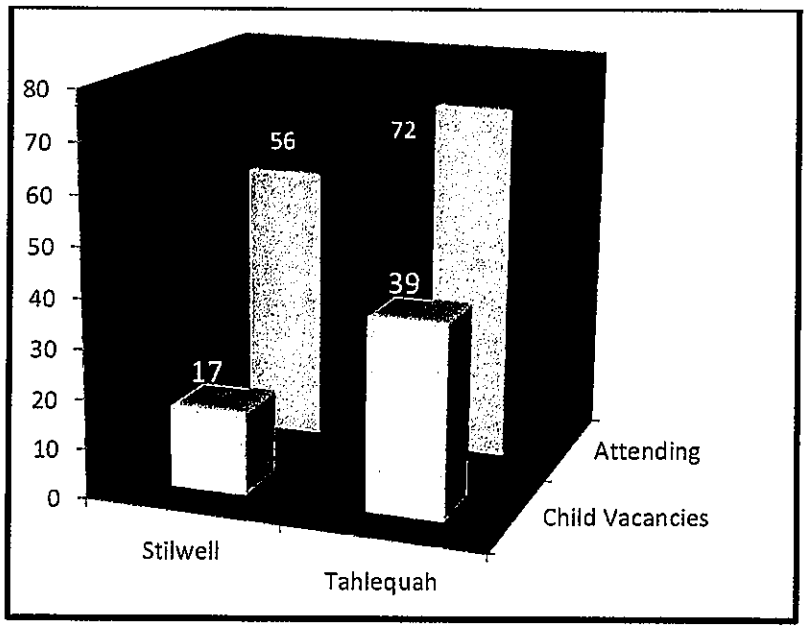
CHILD CARE & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Director - Tricia Peoples

Number of Employees	102
Number of Vacancies	13
Number of Volunteers	0

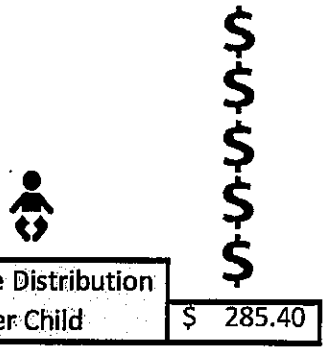
Programs
Child Care Development Centers
Subsidy
Resource & Referral
Licensing & Monitoring

Child Care Development Centers :



Subsidy :

Children Receiving	1,787
Amount Distributed	$ 510,006.00

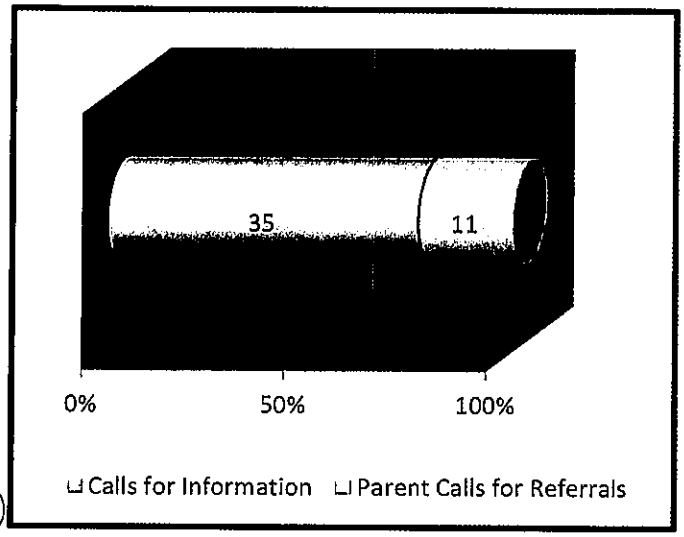


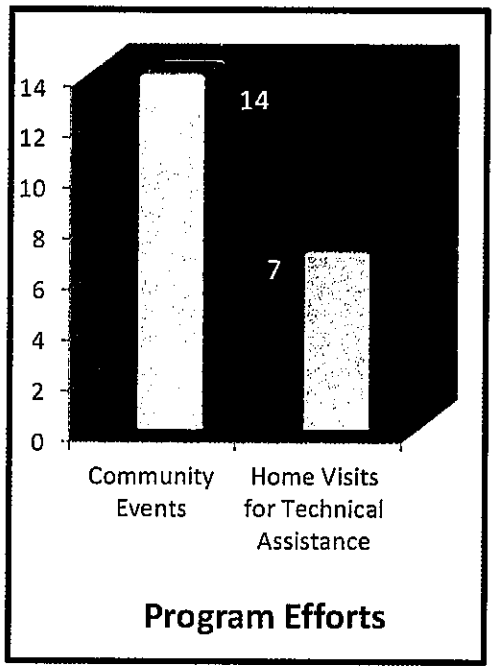
Average Distribution Per Child	$ 285.40

CHILD CARE & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

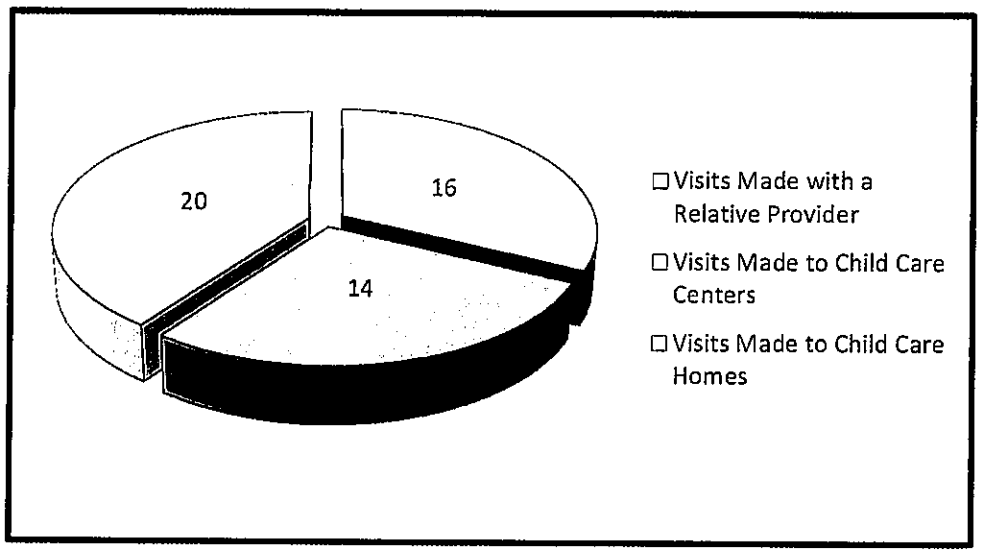
Resource & Referral :

Trainings for the Month	10





Licensing & Monitoring :



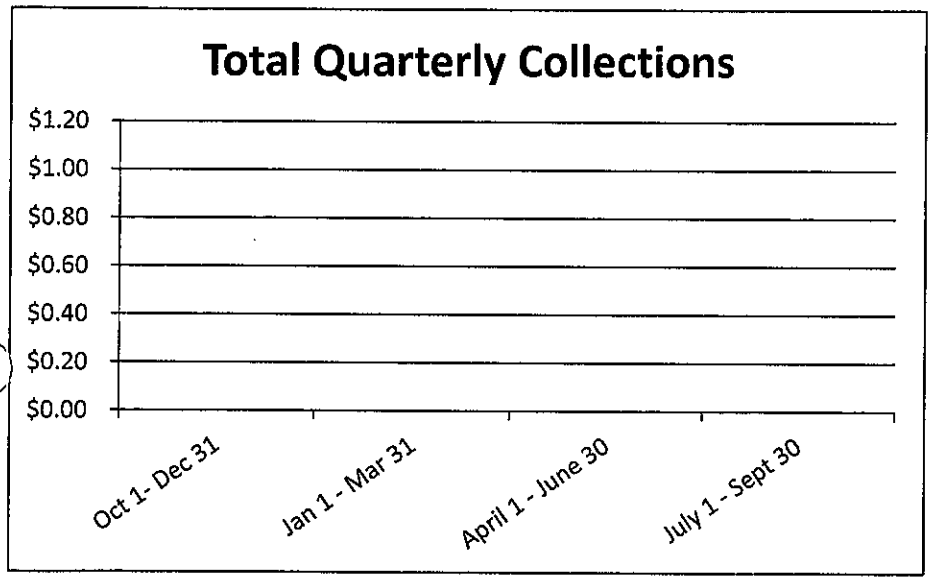
OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT

Director - Kara Whitworth

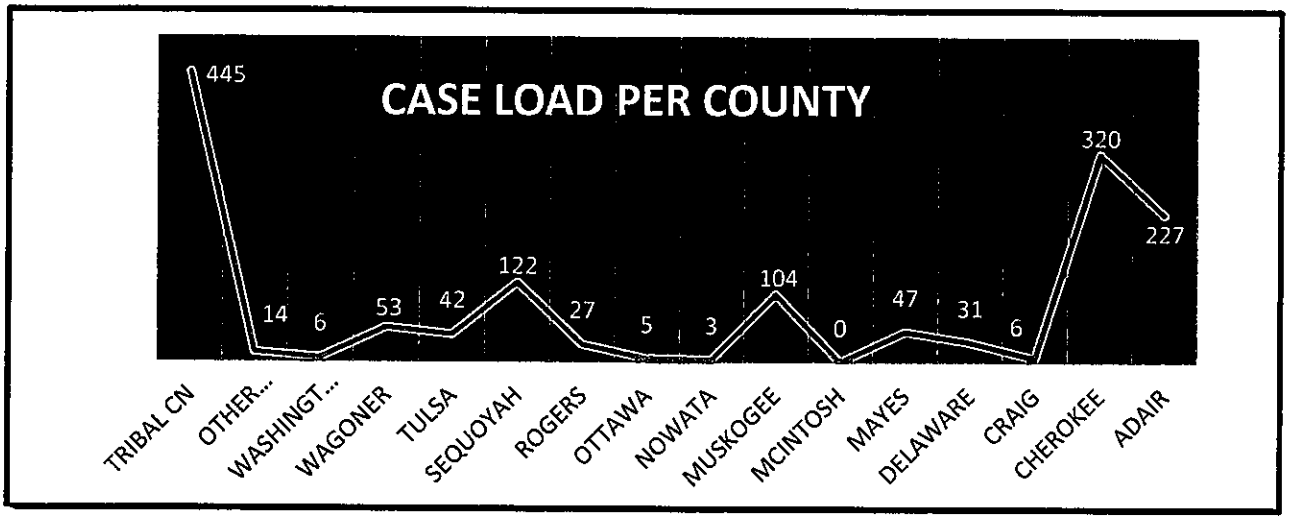
Number of Employees	32
Number of Vacancies	1
Number of Volunteers	

Nov.. Collections-CN Payment Center only:	$ 254,186.00

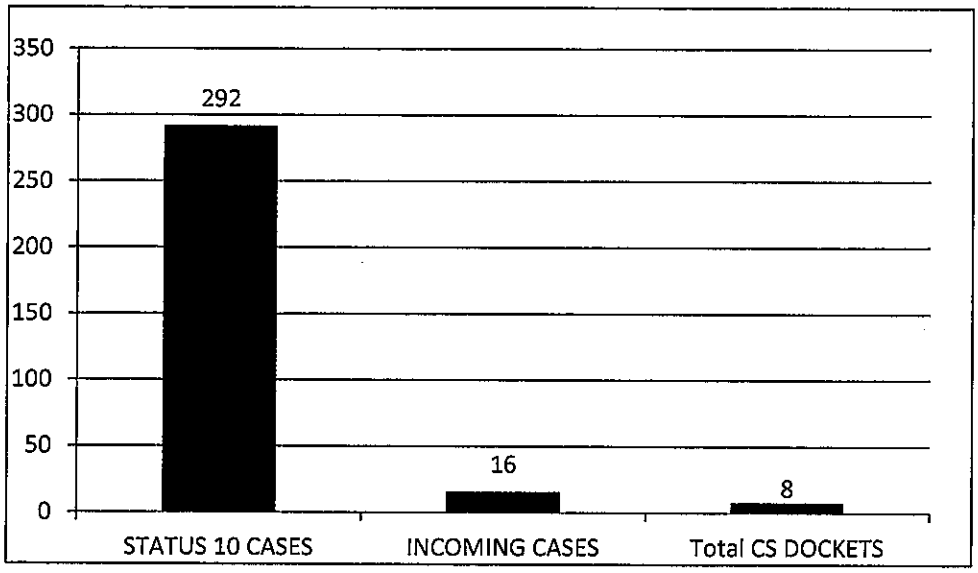
Total Client Contacts
2,108
Total Court Hearings
57
Total Active Efforts Case
871
Total Case Assessments for Service
19
Total Applications Distributed
50



*Includes payment center collections, tax intercepts, and other special collections



OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT



Child Support:

Cherokee Nation Office of Child Support services continues with day to day operations of the main child support services of establishing paternity and child support and enforcing it. The office has submitted a recommendation for hire for our file legal clerk to HR and Hopefully this individual will be able to start with our office by first of January. Our child support agency was the highlighted tribe at the recent state of Oklahoma Tribal Child Support Association conference in Tulsa, OK. There are 9 other tribal child support programs in OK in which their staff participated in this conference. We completed our staff development day Dec 1 and staff went though training for mandatory yearly IRS safeguarding training and also were provided presentation on cultural leadership within CN as an employee by CN cultural resource specialist.

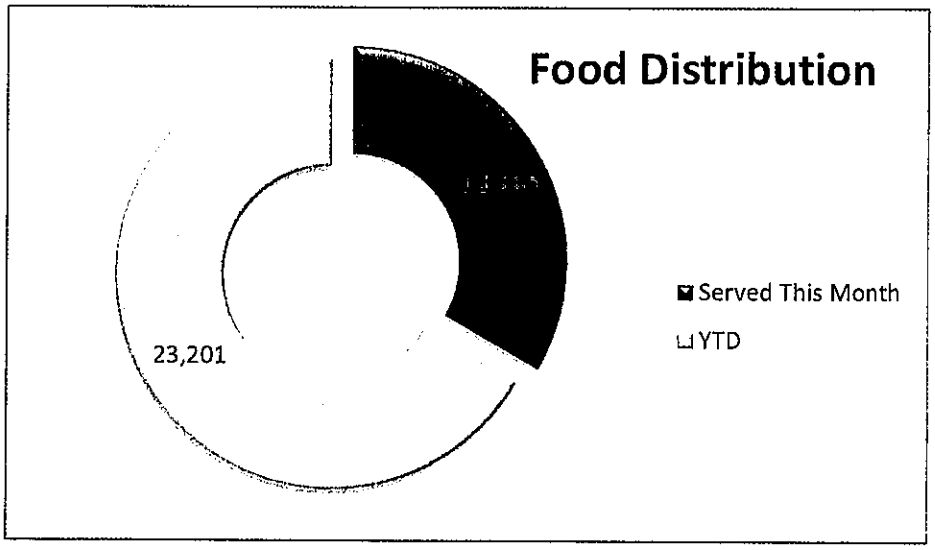
FAMILY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT

Interim Director - Jennifer Kirby

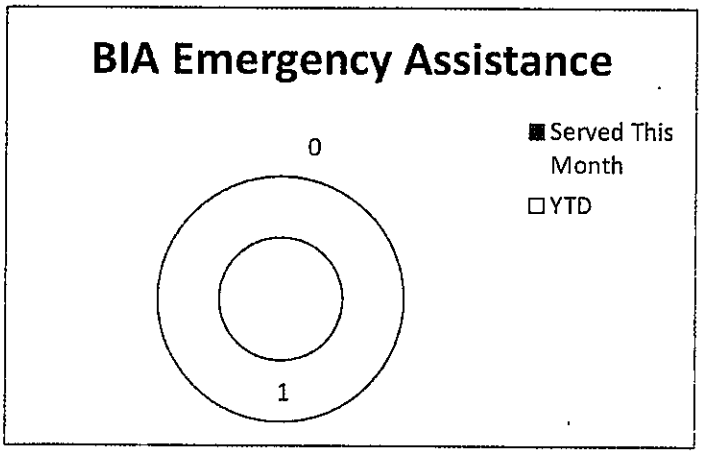
Number of Employees	103
Number of Vacancies	7
Number of Volunteers	39

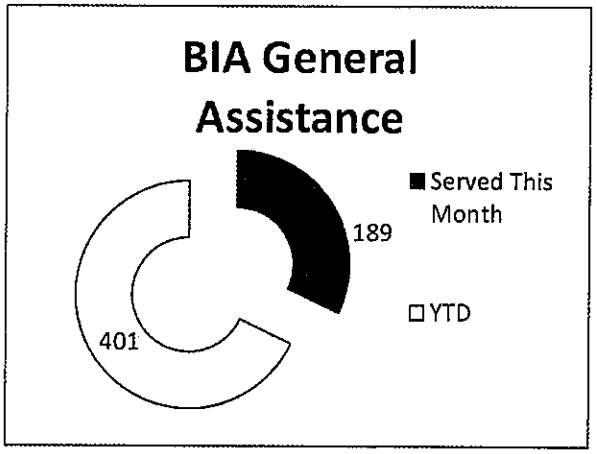
Programs
Food Distribution
Social Services
Burial Assistance
Elder Care
Family Assistance
LIHEAP
NAHASDA
CITGO

Food Distribution :



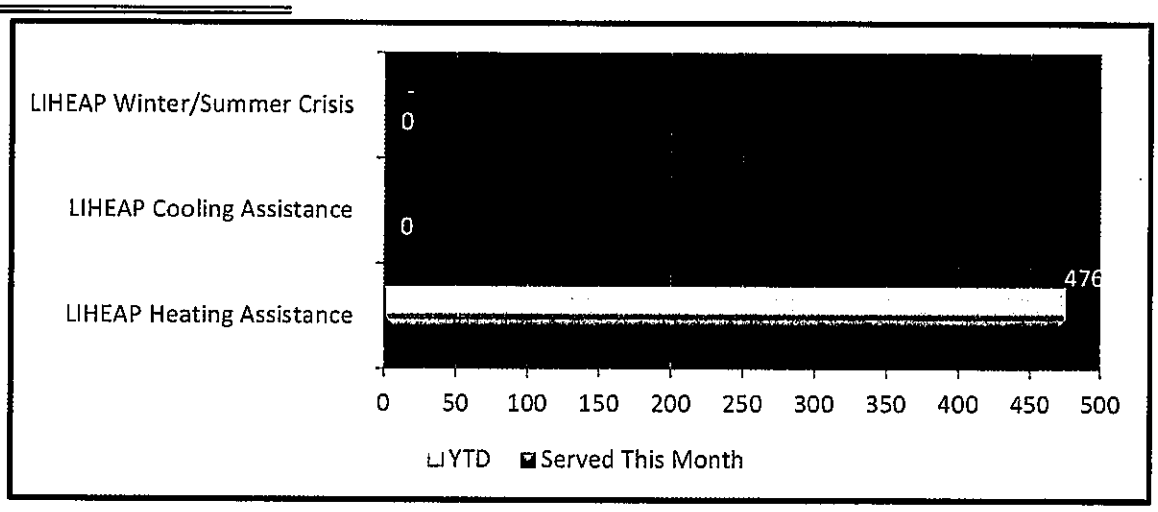
BIA Social Services :





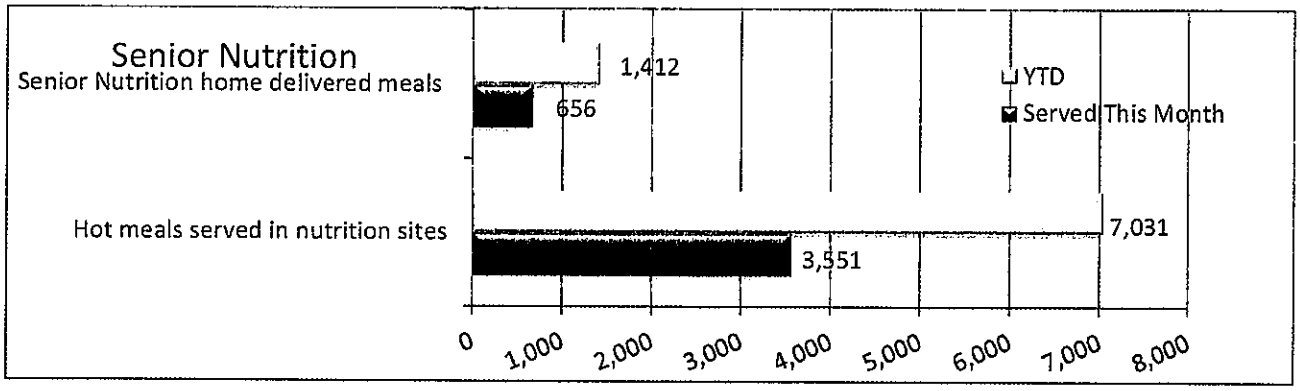
FAMILY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT

LIHEAP:

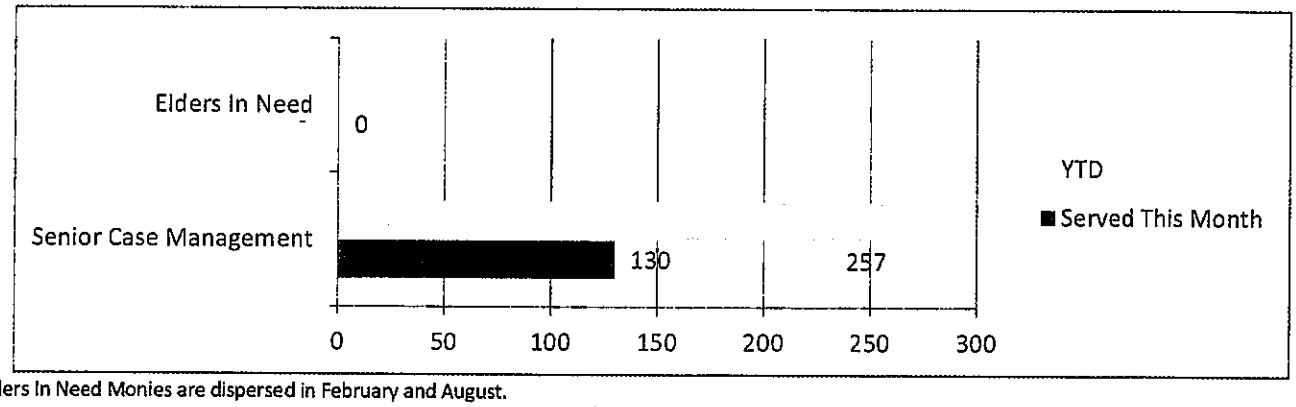


*(LIHEAP COOLING ASSISTANCE) Program starts in December and ends in February

Elder Services :



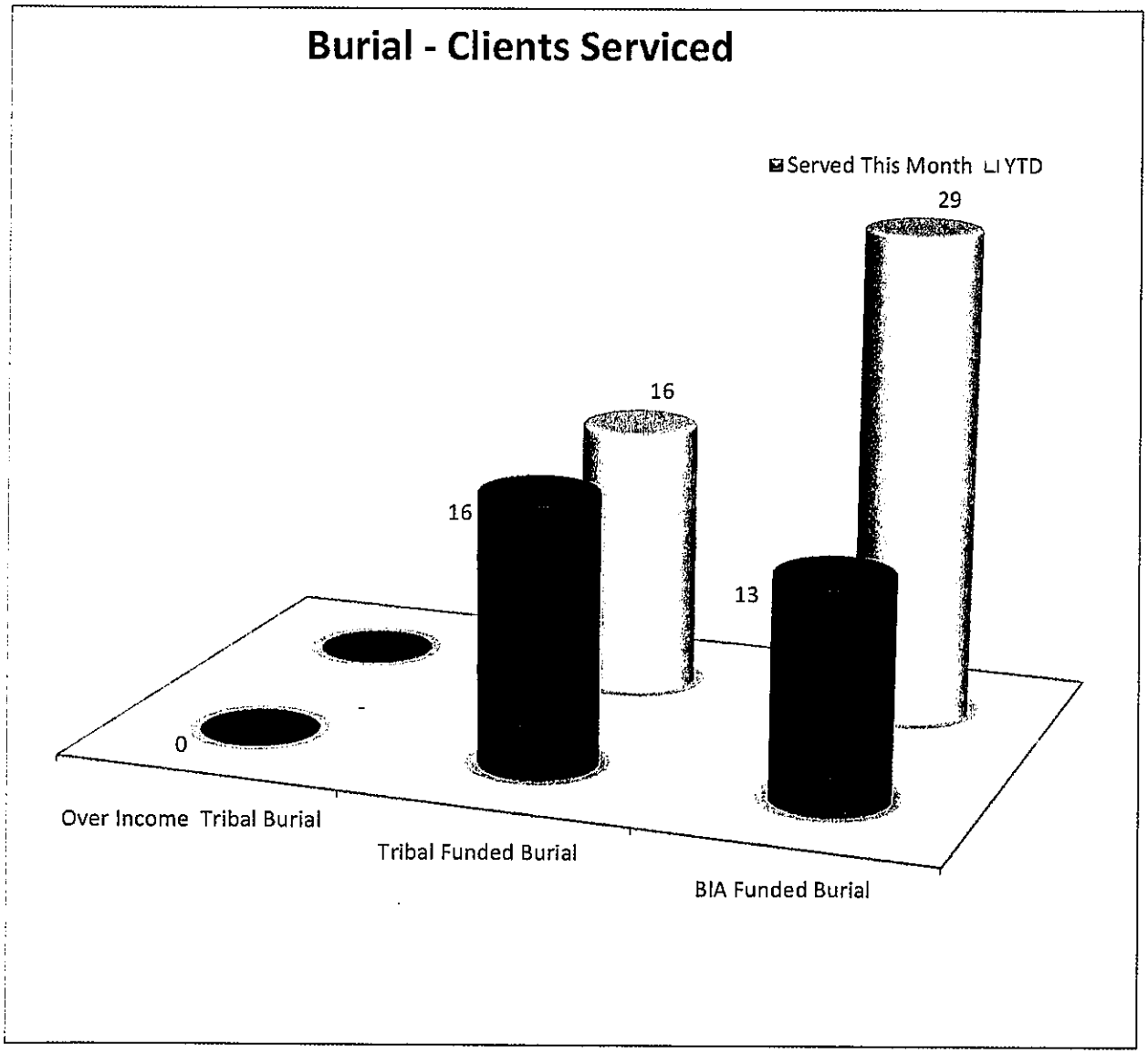
*Program starts in April



*Elders In Need Monies are dispersed in February and August.

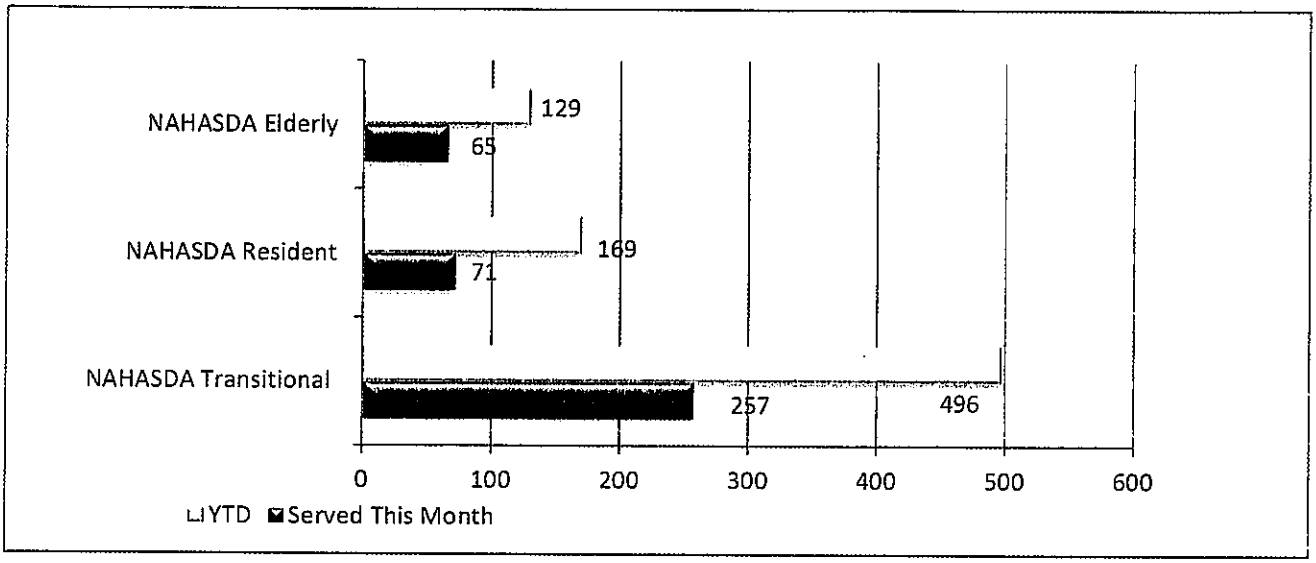
FAMILY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT

Burial Assistance :

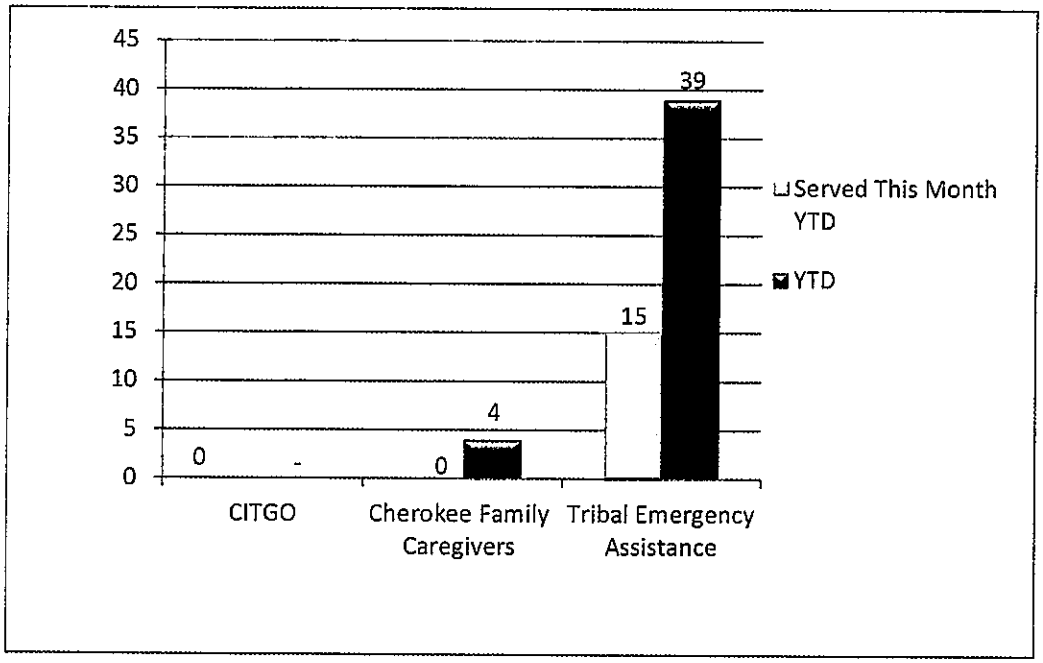


FAMILY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT

NAHASDA :

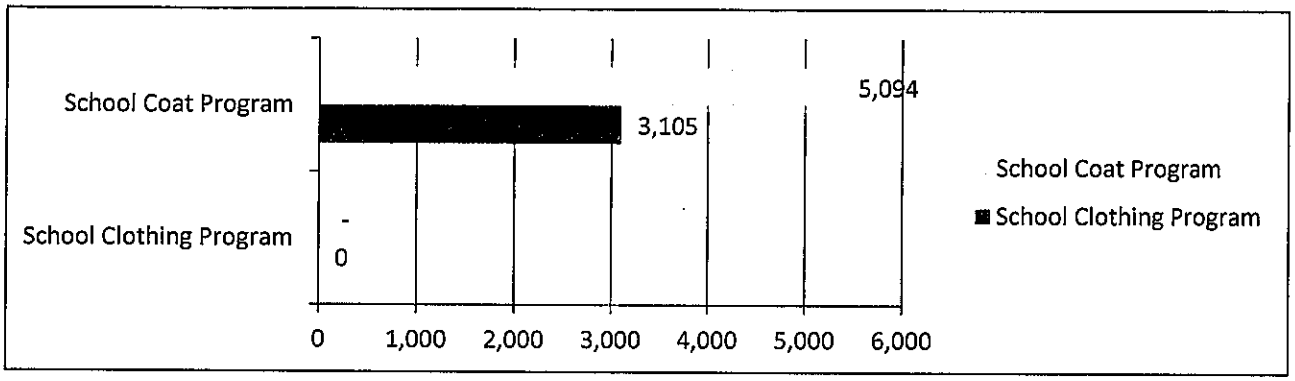


Family Assistance :



FAMILY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT

School Clothing Assistance Programs :



*School Clothing Program starts in July, before the school year begins.

Family Assistance:

CHEROKEE FIRST

Administrative Officer - Janelle Smith

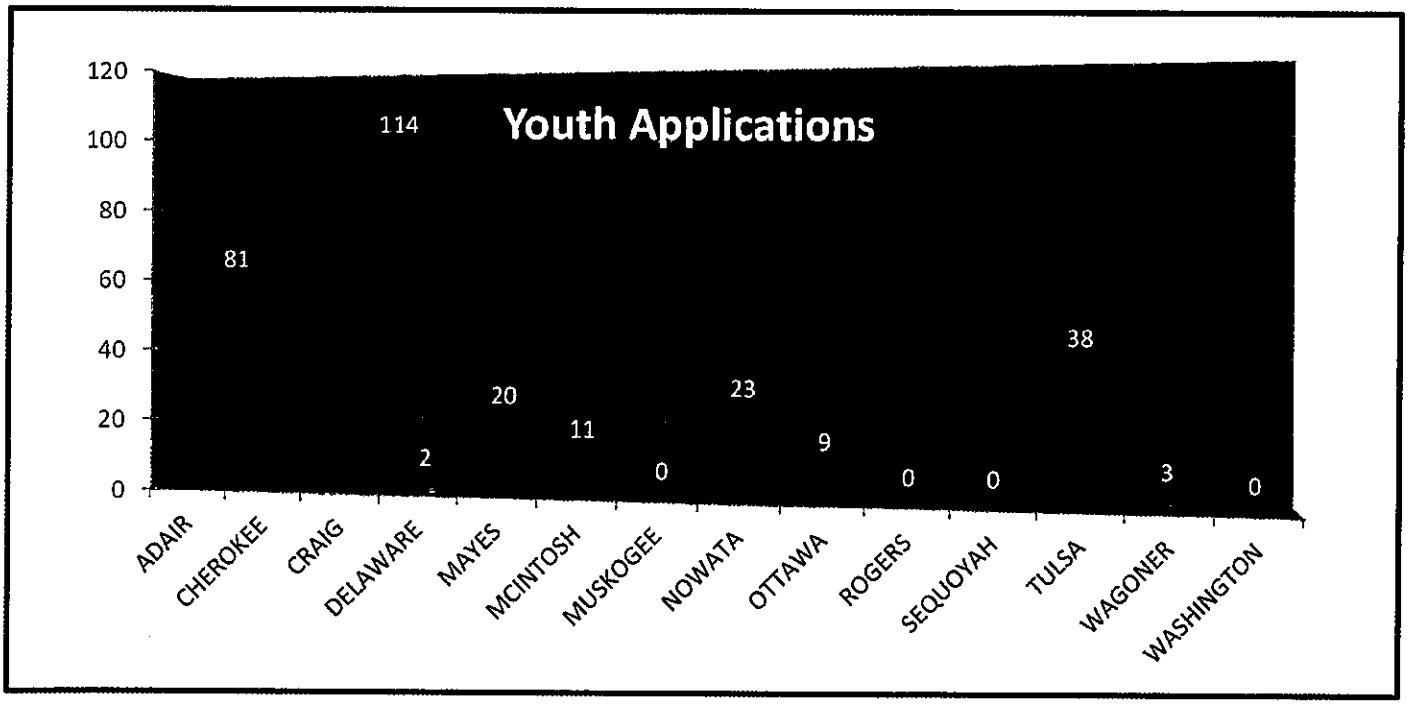
Number of Employees	3
Number of Vacancies	0
Number of Volunteers	0

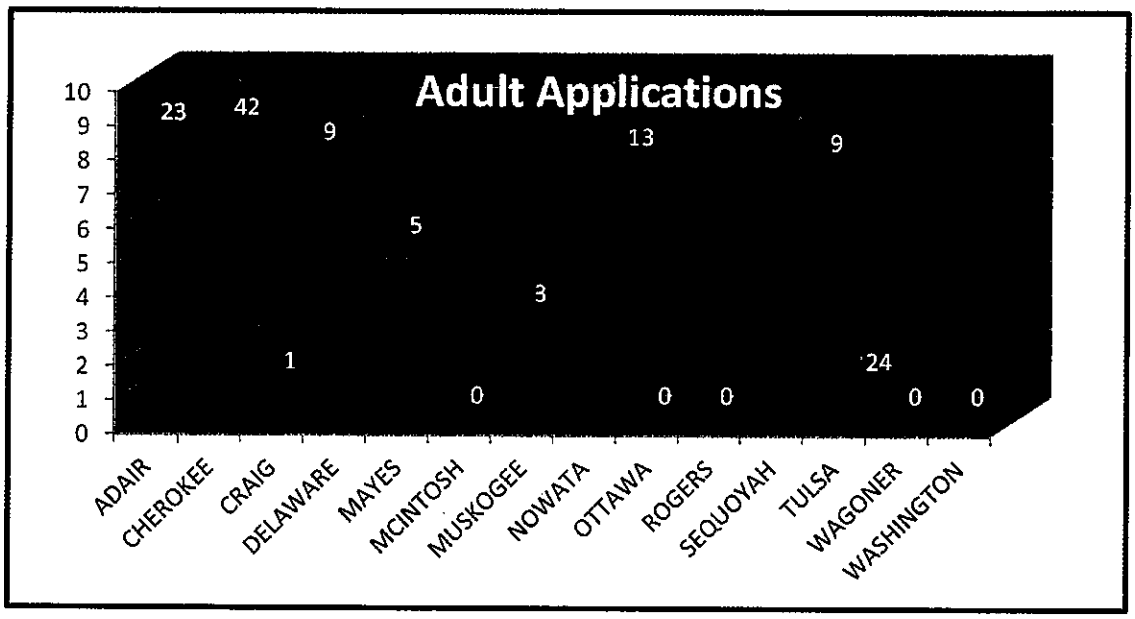
Programs
Reception
Community Youth

Reception :

Total Walk Ins/Phone Calls Taken	1,457
Total Applications Taken	408

Community Youth :





Overview of Community Leadership Program Applications

Total Youth	136
Total Adult	1

Monthly Total Amount Distributed

November	$ 81,600.00

CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Group: Community Services **Month/Year of Report:** December 2017

Executive Director: Ron Qualls **Phone:** **E-mail:**

I. Budget Highlights

1. IHS HQ has completed review of the Sanitation Deficiency System project list for FY18. Awaiting allocation of funding and award letters for projects. This may be delayed by the lack of a federal budget and congressional approval of a CR through the end of FY18.

II. Program Highlights

a.) Balanced Scorecard Measures

1. Trained 143 food handlers
2. Repaired 10 sewer and/or water facilities
3. Installed 21 sewer and/or water facilities

b.) Accomplishments

1. Construction on Fort Gibson WTP project approximately 80% complete.
2. Attended the State On-Site Wastewater Installer/Regulators conference in Stillwater on Dec 19th.
3. Held a staff development meeting on December 15th.
4. Attended the RCAP meeting in Washington DC on December 6-7.
5. Met with Grants Administration about possible grant funding opportunities for Marble City and Cherry Tree.

c.) Future Plans

1. Working with CDC, Public Health Foundation and National Tribal Water Center on sampling for Snake Creek/Iron Post Area.
2. Working with Cherry Tree RWD on issues related to the water and sewer system. We are working on assisting them with grant opportunities to build a dedicated water office/shop which would more than likely be located in the CN Industrial Park. We are also prepared to assist them with technical assistance and training opportunities for the board to help insure a well-managed and functional public utility. We are also working on an updated MOU between CN and CCRWD to better define the operation and maintenance responsibilities for the sewer system.

CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Group:	Housing Authority	Month/Year of Report:	January, 2018
Executive Director:	Gary J. Cooper		
Deputy Director:	Erna Reeves	Phone:	918-456-5482

Public Disclosures:

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 (NAHASDA), shall be publicly disclosed.

The following applicants have been determined eligible for participation.

LOW RENT APARTMENT:

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

Kristin Duncan, sister in law to Chanyng Whitekiller of HACN

HOMEOWNERSHIP:

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

None to report

RENTAL ASSISTANCE/TEMPORARY RENTAL ASSISTANCE/COLLEGE HOUSING:

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

None to report

NEW CONSTRUCTION HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM: ***(Non-NAHASDA Program)***

The following employee and/or relatives were approved to receive services for the New Construction Homeownership program pursuant to guidelines set forth in the HACN Policy as approved by the Board of Commissioners.

None to report

HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The following employee and/or relatives were approved to receive services from the Housing Rehabilitation program pursuant to guidelines set forth in the HACN Policy as approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Deloris King, aunt to Cheryl Pritchett of HACN

HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

Keys to a brighter future

Announcements

Board of Commissioners Meeting:

Jan 23 January Regular BOC Meeting at 5:30 PM

Office Closures:

Jan 1 New Year's Day
Feb 19 President's Day

Other Info:

Jan 17-19 Southern Plains Indian Housing Association (SPIHA) Winter Quarterly Meeting

All offices and staff of the HACN may be reached through the main office number, regardless of their office location. The local and toll free numbers are:

918-456-5482
800-837-2869

Employee Email is:

firstname.lastname@hacn.org

Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation

Month Ending: November, 2017

Current Program Participants:

			Rental Assistance			*Homeownership*		*Loans*		*Totals*	
County	Community Shield Insurance	Low Rent Apartments	Rental Assistance (RAP)	Temporary Assistance (TAP)	College Housing Programs	Home-ownership Programs	New Construction Homes	Title VI Mortgage Program	Assumable/ Other Mtg. Program	Total Housing Participants	% of Participants
Adair	468	149	98	6	7	107	65	21	3	924	15%
Cherokee	578	179	237	4	16	236	139	61	2	1,452	23%
Craig	39	54	30	0	6	10	13	2	0	154	2%
Delaware	313	117	68	1	12	101	100	25	5	742	12%
McIntosh	15	N/A	0	0	0	5	3	0	0	23	0%
Mayes	224	121	84	1	7	29	45	11	1	523	8%
Muskogee	123	48	47	2	2	49	47	13	0	331	5%
Nowata	29	40	26	0	2	10	26	2	0	135	2%
Ottawa	20	N/A	1	0	0	9	7	4	1	42	1%
Rogers	149	70	151	10	10	80	34	49	3	556	9%
Sequoyah	515	N/A	127	17	17	156	118	57	4	1,011	16%
Tulsa	58	N/A	83	3	4	28	8	4	1	189	3%
Wagoner	8	N/A	3	0	1	59	2	1	1	75	1%
Washington	26	38	31	0	2	26	11	3	0	137	2%
Total:	2,565	816	986	44	86	905	618	253	21	6,294	100%
			1,116			1,523		274			

Current Applications:

County	Rehab Programs	Rehab Replacement Homes	Rehab Replacement Mobile	NAHASDA Home-ownership	Community Shield Insurance	Low Rent Apartments	Rental Assistance	New Home Construction	% NHCP	Total Apps	% of Total
Adair	150	3	4	20	13	172	282	192	10%	836	13%
Cherokee	177	1	3	48	20	307	346	451	23%	1,353	21%
Craig	46	0	0	3	1	45	25	57	3%	177	3%
Delaware	135	0	1	22	6	177	168	245	13%	754	12%
McIntosh	7	0	0	0	0	N/A	4	13	1%	24	0%
Mayes	102	1	2	11	11	91	175	152	8%	545	8%
Muskogee	59	0	1	11	1	52	144	147	8%	415	6%
Nowata	37	0	0	6	1	35	17	53	3%	149	2%
Ottawa	13	0	0	2	0	N/A	15	24	1%	54	1%
Rogers	72	1	1	21	2	14	272	166	9%	549	8%
Sequoyah	185	3	1	20	10	N/A	405	240	12%	864	13%
Tulsa	70	0	1	24	4	N/A	205	139	7%	443	7%
Wagoner	23	0	0	1	1	N/A	20	33	2%	78	1%
Washington	57	0	0	17	2	101	63	37	2%	277	4%
Total:	1,133	9	14	206	72	994	2,141	1,949	100%	6,518	100%

Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation
Month Ending: November, 2017

Tribal HUD - VASH

VA Supportive Housing Program

	Applications			*Assistance*	*Totals*	
County	Referrals Received / Applications Processing	Vounchers Issued	Waiting List	Housed Veteran	Total	% of Participants
Adair	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Cherokee	1	1	0	3	5	28%
Craig	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Delaware	0	0	0	1	1	6%
McIntosh	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Mayes	0	0	0	1	1	6%
Muskogee	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Nowata	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Ottawa	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Rogers	3	0	0	3	6	33%
Sequoyah	1	1	0	3	5	28%
Tulsa	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Wagoner	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total:	**5**	**2**	**0**	**11**	**18**	**100%**

HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CHEROKEE NATION
Keys to a brighter future

TRIBAL HUD-VASH

HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION AND THE OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS ARE OFFERING A HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM FOR NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS WHO ARE HOMELESS OR AT-RISK OF BECOMING HOMELESS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR THIS PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT LISA LOOK AT THE JACK C. MONTGOMERY VAMC.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS
Lisa Look, MSW, LCSW, LADAC
Tribal HUD/VASH Case Manager for Cherokee Nation
1011 Honor Heights Drive
Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401
Phone: (918) 616-8794 | Fax: (918) 577-3329
Lisa.Look@va.gov

New Construction Homeownership Program
Development Files Processing

Month of:
Nov, 2017

		Applications		Processing						Construction					
				Stg I	*Stg II*		*Stg III*		*Stg IV*						
County	Waiting List	App Problem	App Processing	Prelim Review	Site Inspect	Problem Files	Survey Pending	Survey Rec'd	Process Closing	Under / Ready Const	Construction Complete	In Processing	Land Development	Under Construction	Construction Complete
Adair	136	0	0	5	1	0	2	2	20	7	65	0	30	7	65
Cherokee	362	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	46	22	139	1	49	22	139
Craig	38	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	11	13	0	7	11	13
Delaware	190	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	15	25	100	2	19	25	100
McIntosh	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	2	0	3
Mayes	120	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	16	1	45	0	19	1	45
Muskogee	128	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	15	1	47	1	15	1	47
Nowata	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	26	0	1	1	26
Ottawa	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	7
Rogers	158	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	34	0	5	1	34
Sequoyah	199	0	3	5	0	0	0	1	22	3	118	3	28	3	118
Tulsa	138	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	0	1	0	8
Wagoner	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	1	2
Washington	37	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	2	0	11
Total:	1,617	0	7	**20**	**3**	**0**	**4**	**3**	**150**	**73**	**618**	**7**	**180**	**73**	**618**
		7		180						691					

STAGE I:
- Copies of Deed(s), etc.
- Check Floodmaps/Floodplain
- Identify Utility Companies
- Contact for Site Inspection

STAGE II:
- Visit Site
- Identify/Propose Site Plan
- Identify/Propose Utilities
- Identify/Propose Lateral Field
- Identify/Propose Easement(s)
- Deliver Utility Assurance Letters
- Request Abstract from participant

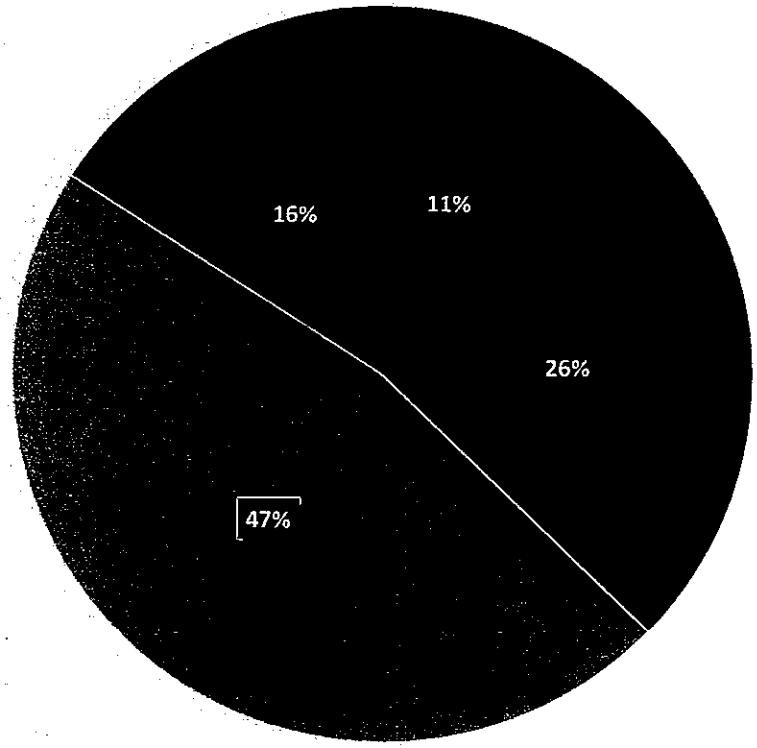
STAGE III:
- Order/Receive Survey
- Order/Receive Perc Test
- Receive Utility Assurance
- Receive Abstract from participant

STAGE IV:
- Survey Review / Identify Barriers / Process for Closing

Housing Rehabilitation Programs - Job Statistics

Month Ending:
November, 2017

Replacement Homes Under Contract	13
Out for Bid/Pending	29
Contracts Awarded	53
Contracts Completed	18

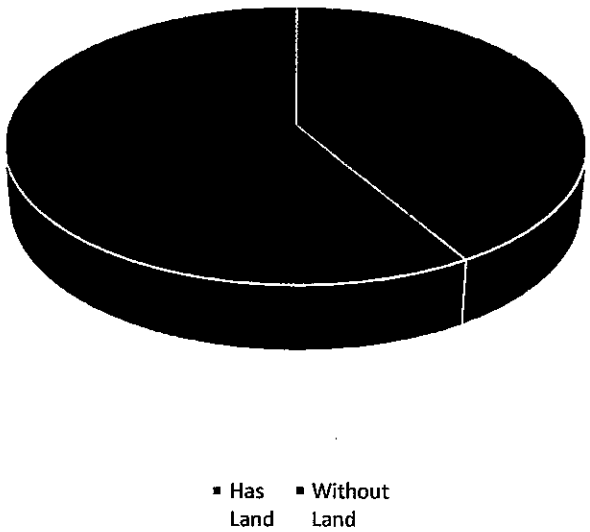


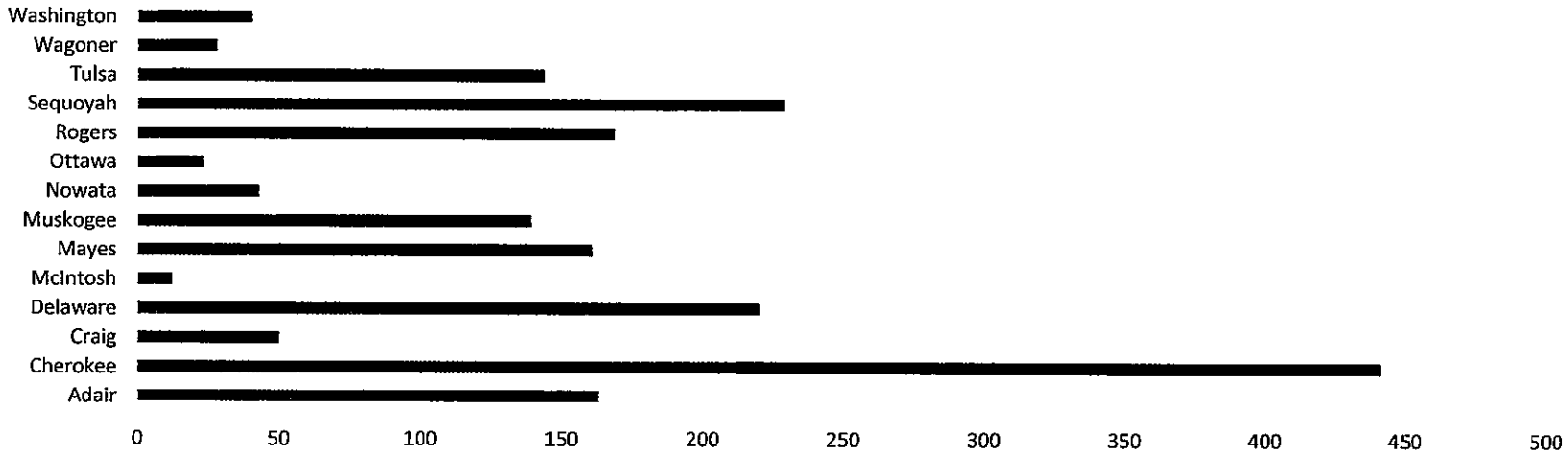
New Construction Homeownership Program

Application Data

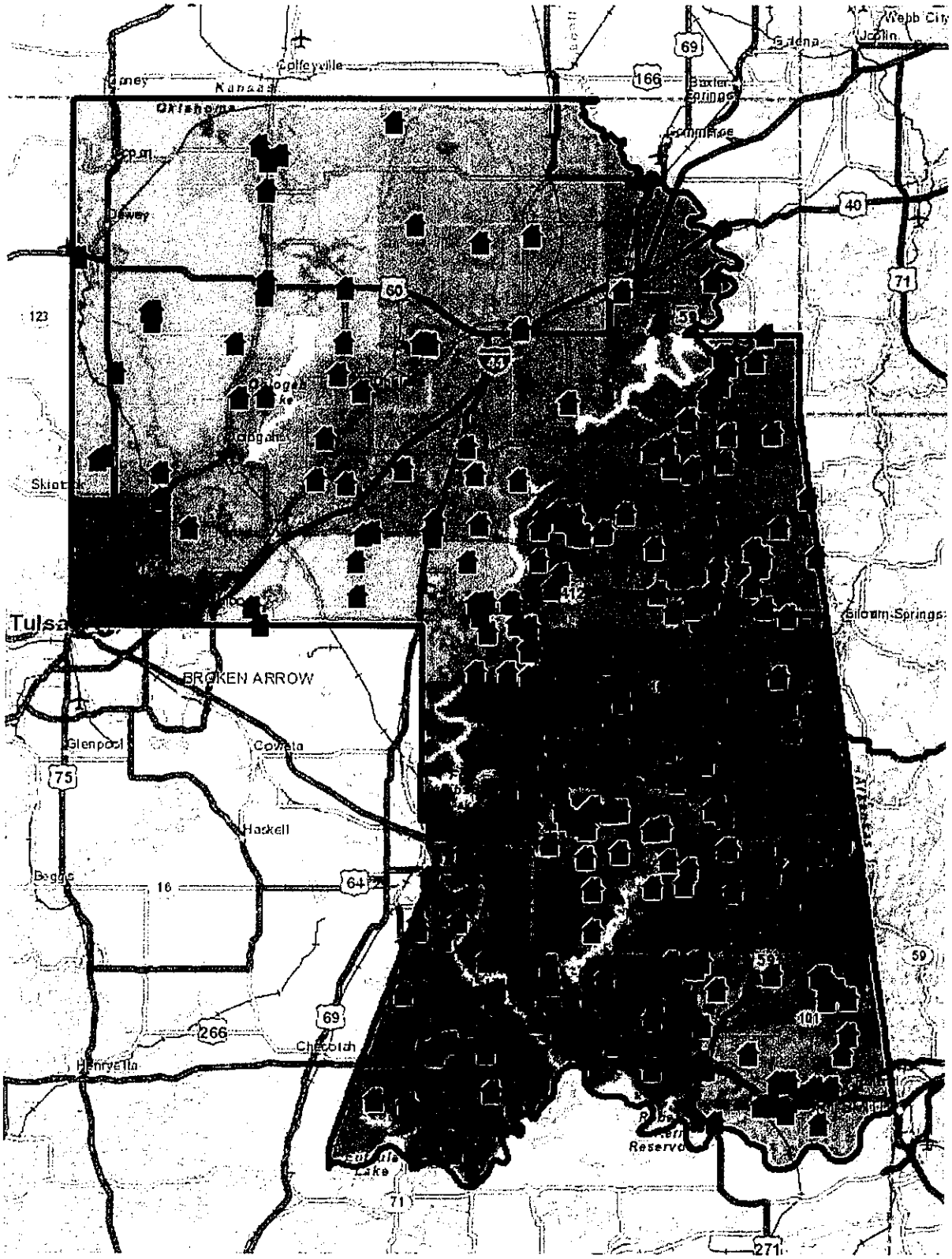
By Has Land/Does not have land:

County	Has Land	Without Land	% With Land	% W/O Land	Total Apps
Adair	78	85	48%	52%	163
Cherokee	212	229	48%	52%	441
Craig	22	28	44%	56%	50
Delaware	104	116	47%	53%	220
McIntosh	7	5	58%	42%	12
Mayes	83	78	52%	48%	161
Muskogee	51	88	37%	63%	139
Nowata	27	16	63%	37%	43
Ottawa	6	17	26%	74%	23
Rogers	32	137	19%	81%	169
Sequoyah	118	111	52%	48%	229
Tulsa	12	132	8%	92%	144
Wagoner	12	16	43%	57%	28
Washington	7	33	18%	83%	40
Total:	771	1,091	41%	59%	1,862





Statistics as of: May 30, 2017



The above map is a representation of locations that the HACN has inspected sites for and/or built new homes on the New Home Construction Program.

CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

Group: Community Services/ Dept. of Transportation **Month/Year of Report:** Jan 2018

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

Comments:

ADAIR COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Bell North – Utility meeting to set utility easements was conducted on December 13, 2017.
2. Bell School South – In process of Right of Way acquisition.
3. Bunch Road – Currently in bridge design.
4. Chewey Road – NEPA is completed. The 404 permit is being updated. The firm of Smith-Roberts has completed over 75% of right-of-way acquisition.
5. Dahlonegah South – NEPA has been completed. The firm of Smith-Roberts started the acquisition process. November 1, 2016
6. Dahlonegah West- Holloway Updike and Bellen Engineers working on 60% plans.
7. Honey Hill Phase I –T. McDonald Construction has been awarded the contract. Construction beganNovember 27, 2017.
8. Lyon South Road - Design is at 90% stage. Holloway Updike and Bellen Engineers has finalized H&H and submitted to CNDOT design.
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. Working with ODWC on MOA before we can move forward with acquisition. Right of Way easements and exhibits are being worked on.
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. Offer Letters have been completed.
13. Sally Bull Hollow – Level III archeological report is completed. Looking at splitting the project into Phase I and Phase II.
14. Smith Hollow – Red Plains is revising the utility exhibits and easements.

CHEROKEE COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Hulbert-Lost City (Grace Huddlen) –Right of Way is currently at 83.3% (35 parcels out of 42 acquired). Five of the remaining parcels are Restricted Indian Land and r/w packets were submitted to RES on May 22, 2017. Two

parcels are fee land that have been submitted to the County and the D.A.'s Office to condemn for title.

2. Mud Valley Road - Aerial data has been received and submitted to Guy Engineering for design. They are currently working on preliminary survey and design.
3. Northeast Fort Gibson- The NEPA process is complete. Utilities are in the process of being relocated.
4. Ross Street- Construction plans are at 90% stage and have been reviewed by the second level engineer (CGA Engineers). CGA has submitted the Traffic Signal Control Plans to incorporate into our plans. Guy Engineering began acquiring the right of way on December 6, 2017. .

CRAIG COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. NS-4340 Road –Utility relocation in process.

DELAWARE COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Leach/Kenwood Road – Construction is -44.8% 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 July 18, 2017. Right of Way is preparing parcel folders to begin r/w acquisition in the next few months.

MAYES COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Chimney Rock – R/W acquisition is almost complete. One parcel out of 27 parcels remains to be acquired.

MUSKOGEE COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Northeast Fort Gibson- Utility relocation is moving forward.
2. Texanna Road – Survey has been processed and ready for design. Working on 30% Preliminary Plans. Right of Way completed title research for all property owners.

SEQUOYAH COUNTY PROJECTS:

1. Dwight Mission/Sequoyah Landing Road – The project was complete September 28, 2017 with a final inspection performed October 16, 2017. Final acceptance was issued December 4, 2017. The project was finished with a construction cost of $996,045.35.
2. Moonshine Road – Notice to Proceed issued September 5, 2017. Project is under construction. Project is -15% complete.

III. CHEROKEE TRANSIT SYSTEM:

CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

The 6 gasoline vans purchased through with John Vance Auto were delivered December 27, 2017. Two vans will go to KATS, two will go to Pelivan Transit, one to Cimarron Transit, and one to Muskogee County Transit.

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

1. Sallisaw to Tahlequah – 101 rides
2. Pryor to Catoosa – 719 rides
3. Salina to Tahlequah – 121 rides
4. Stilwell to Tahlequah – 44 rides
5. Muskogee to Tahlequah – 172 rides
6. Tahlequah to Claremore – 103 rides
7. Tahlequah to Catoosa – 311 rides
8. Stilwell to West Siloam Springs – 353 rides
9. Tahlequah to Muskogee – 0 rides
10. Individual Demand Response Trips: 6,999

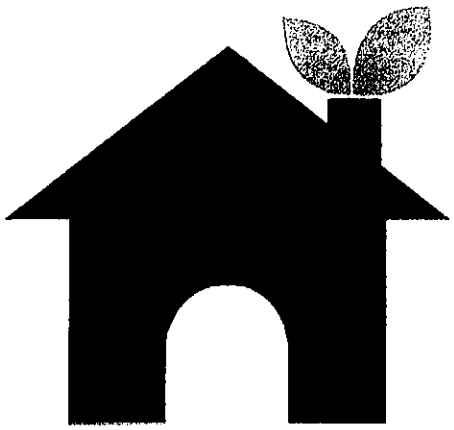
Note: Ridership reports run 2 months behind.

Commerce Group

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

Anna Knight, Executive Director
918-453-5532
anna-knight@cherokee.org

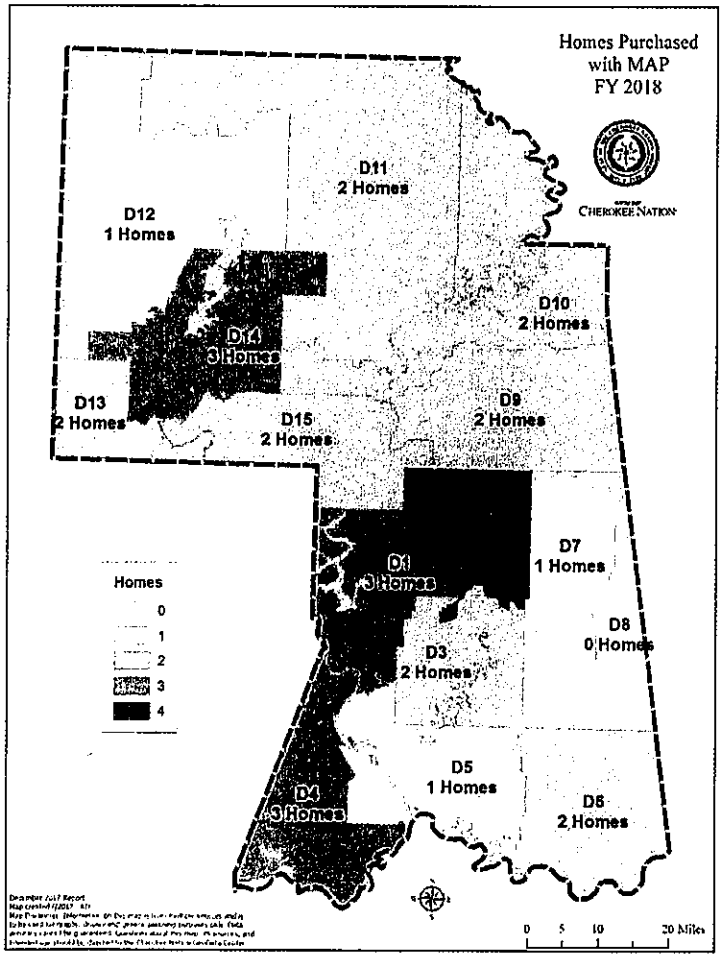
Mortgage Assistance Program



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

14 families used the HUD 184 Loan Program.

MAP Household Averages	
Household income	$33,679.62
Home Price	$92,977.60

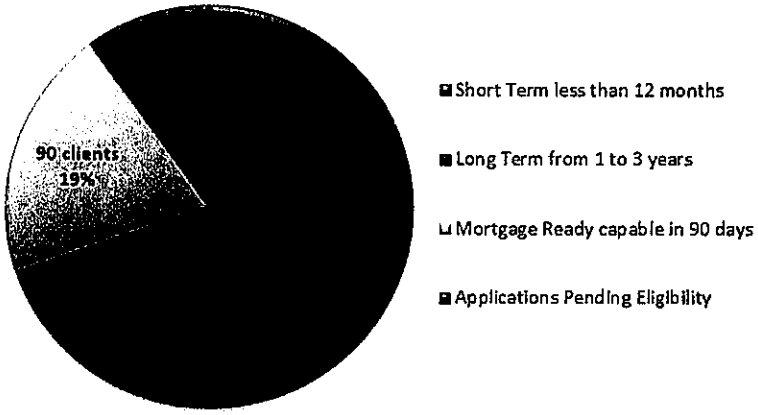


Since FY2009, **1,633 households** have used the Mortgage Assistance Program to invest in their family's future and purchase a home.

56% of families who purchased a home in FY18 moved up at least one level in the **Financial Prosperity Spectrum**.

Financial Counseling

MAP Applications and Financial Counseling

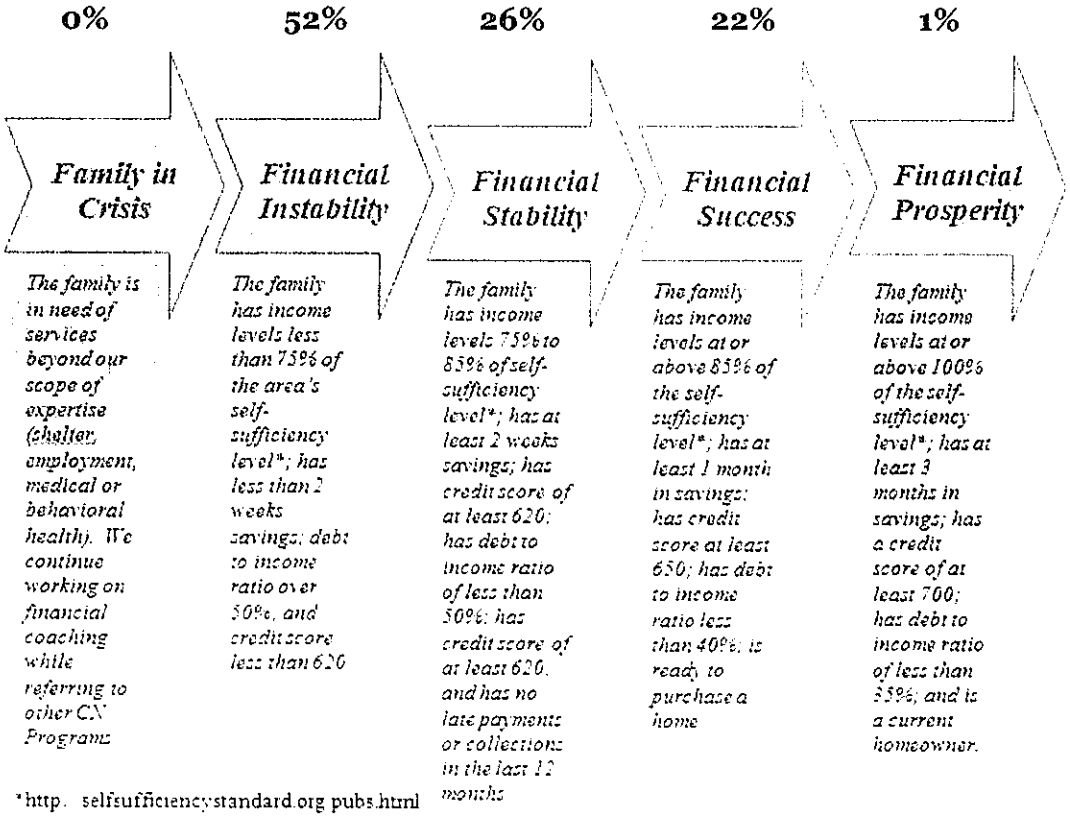


445 families are in the home buyers' pipeline, either having completed or active in financial counseling.

Since FY07, **826 families unable to obtain a non-predatory mortgage on their own** have completed self-sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage.

17 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.



*http. selfsufficiencystandard.org pubs.html

474 families have participated in financial and credit coaching this year.

419 families still actively pursuing goals
- 1% financial prosperity
- 21% financial success
- 26% financially stable
- 51% financially instable

Financial Counseling Impact

Increase to Credit Score	60 points
Debt to Income with Mortgage	29.10%
Debt to Income Reduction after Counseling	2.90%

568 consumer loans totaling $648,666.64 have been made through the Small Business Assistance Center as of October 1st.

370 families are actively saving in iSave for home rehabilitation or home purchase. iSave is *a matched savings program* wherein income eligible families save 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 **58 families have attended these classes**, which are held throughout the Cherokee Nation.

Financial education classes are offered at no cost 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 114 people have attended community and work based financial education classes.**

Training Schedule

Interested in attending a class? Contact Susan Sharp at 918-453-336 or susan-sharp@cherokee.org.

Workshops and Classes			
Date	**Location**	**Time**	**Workshop**
January 3-4	Jay	10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Homebuyers Training
January 3-5	Sallisaw	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
January 8-10	Tahlequah	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
January 10	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
January 15-16	Claremore	10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Homebuyers Training
January 16	Claremore	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
January 20	Tahlequah	9:00 am – 6:00 pm	All Day Homebuyers Training
February 9	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
February 10	Tahlequah	9:00 am – 6:00 pm	All Day Homebuyers Training
February 17	Claremore	9:00 am – 6:00 pm	All Day Homebuyers Training

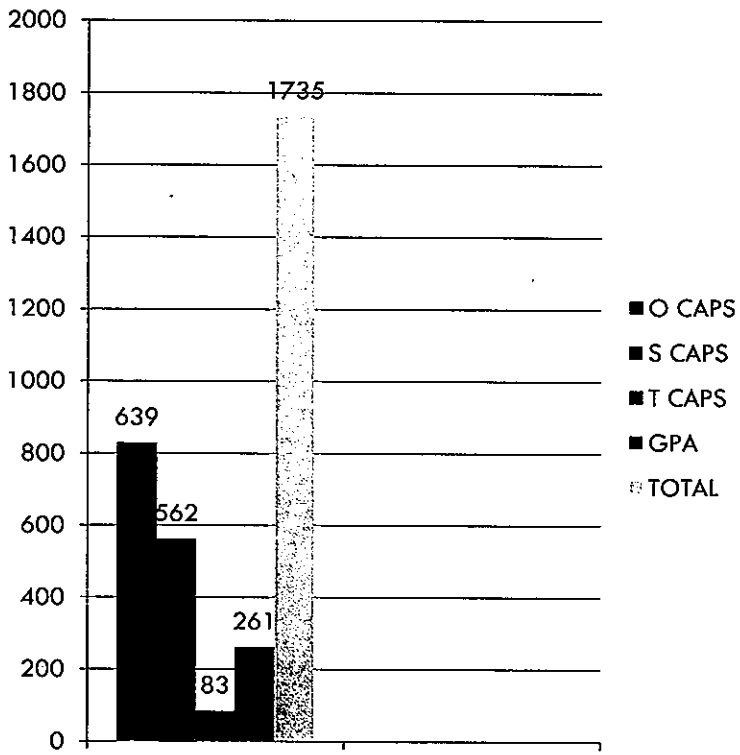
CHEROKEE NATION
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE
MONTHLY REPORT
November2017

Nikki Baker-Limore, Executive Director

Protecting Children, Families and the Nation

Month of November: 1,735 Children

with Assigned ICW Workers



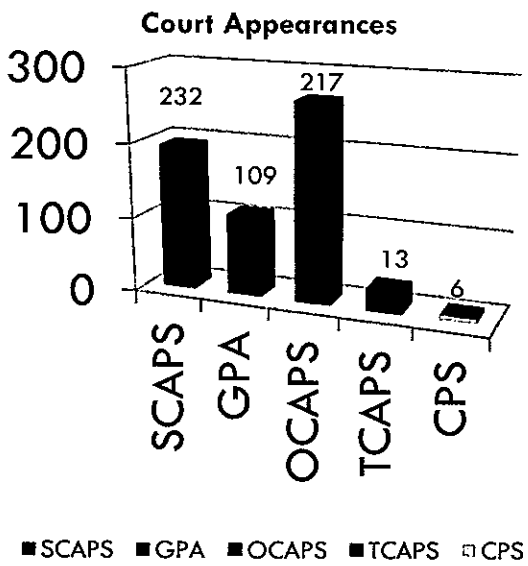
Programs with court interaction

- **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.

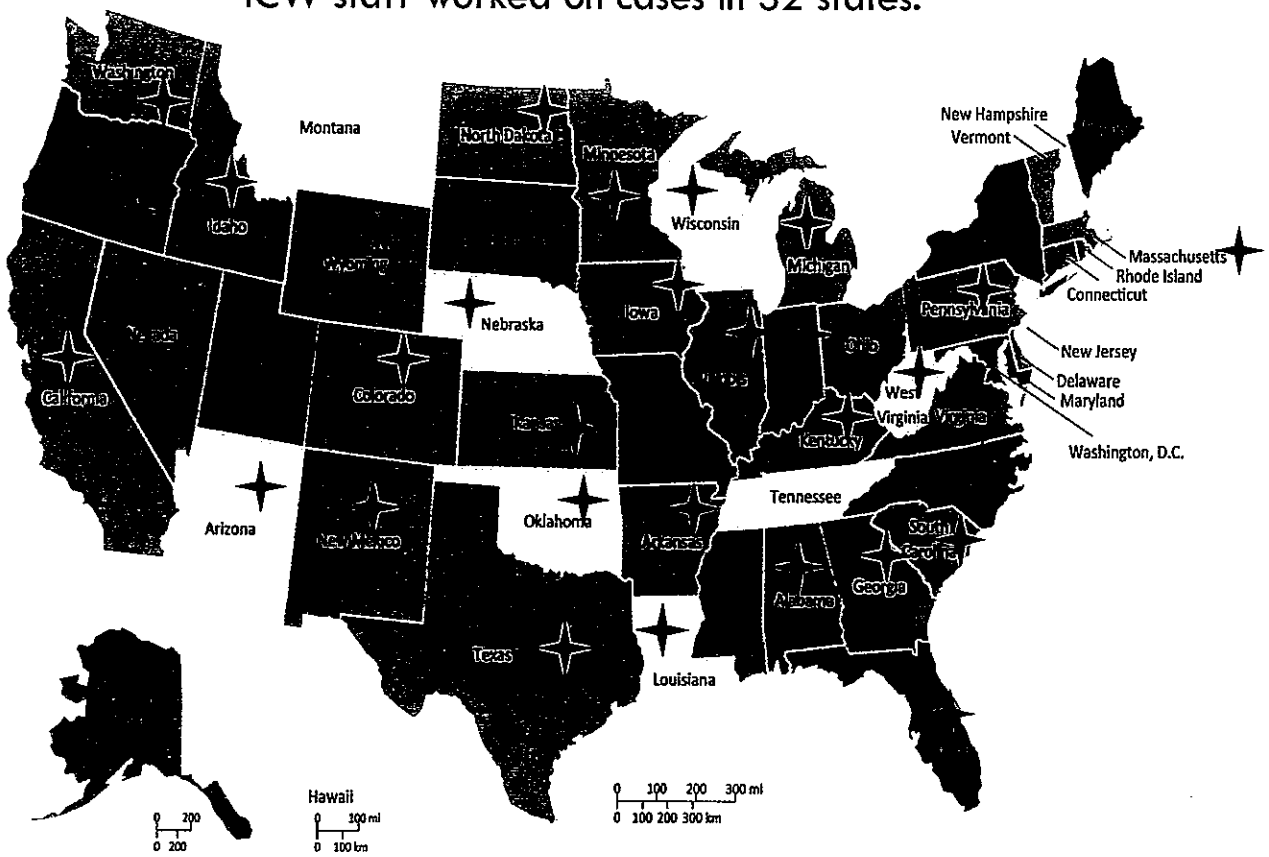
Exercise of Tribal Sovereignty

In November:

Indian Child Welfare workers went to court 606 times on behalf of Cherokee children and families.



ICW staff worked on cases in 32 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. Currently, with six case workers processing approximately 200-300 pieces of mail, per month, response times may vary due to vacancies and depending on amount of mail received. The tribe has a goal of responding between 45-60 days.

Month of November

Cherokee Nation received:

- State of Oklahoma – 400 notices involving 693 children
- Outside of Oklahoma – 664 notices for 1,036 children.
- Totaling – 1,729 children and 1,064 notices.
- The average Response-to-Notice time this month was 54 days.

Prevention and Intervention

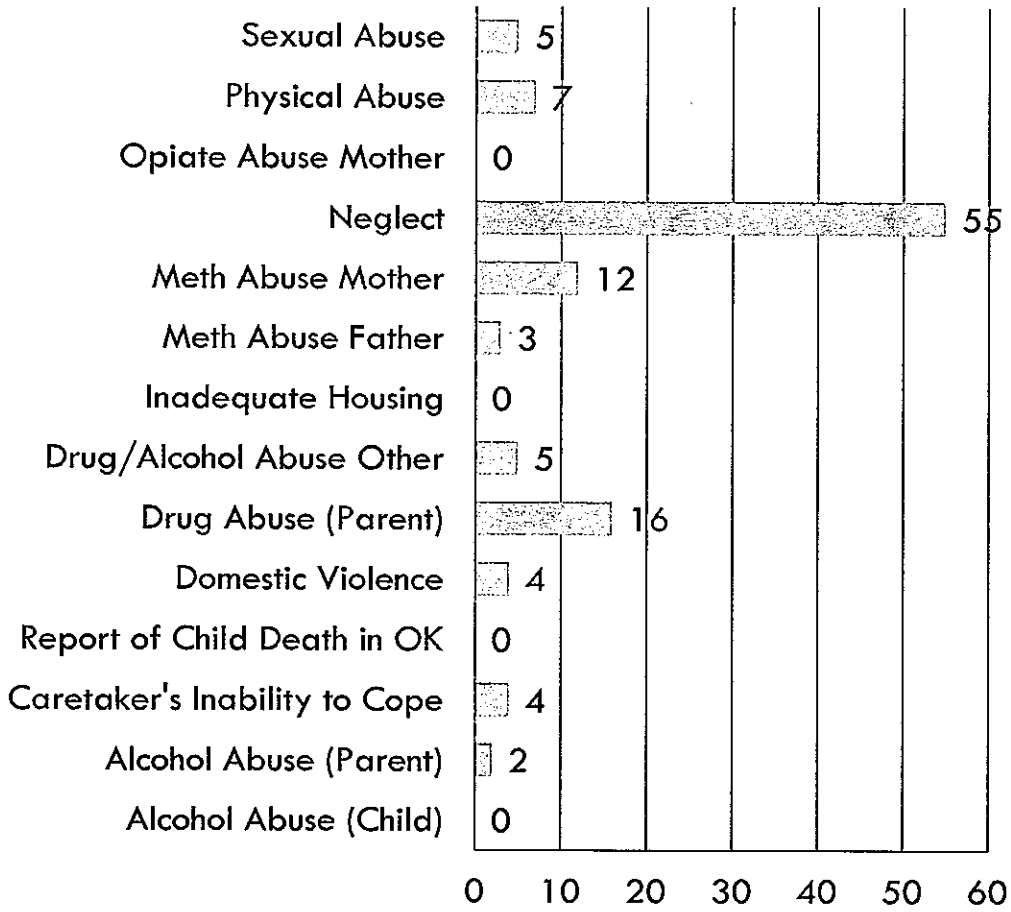
Indian Child Welfare Family Protection Services Unit (FPS) assists families in need of hands-on training to correct the conditions that lead to children being removed from their home. These services often include completing a 28 week parenting program that discusses topics like discipline, nutrition, 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 November

FPS served 24 children and 20 families.

Child Protective Services

Types of Abuse/Neglect Reported



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

Month of November

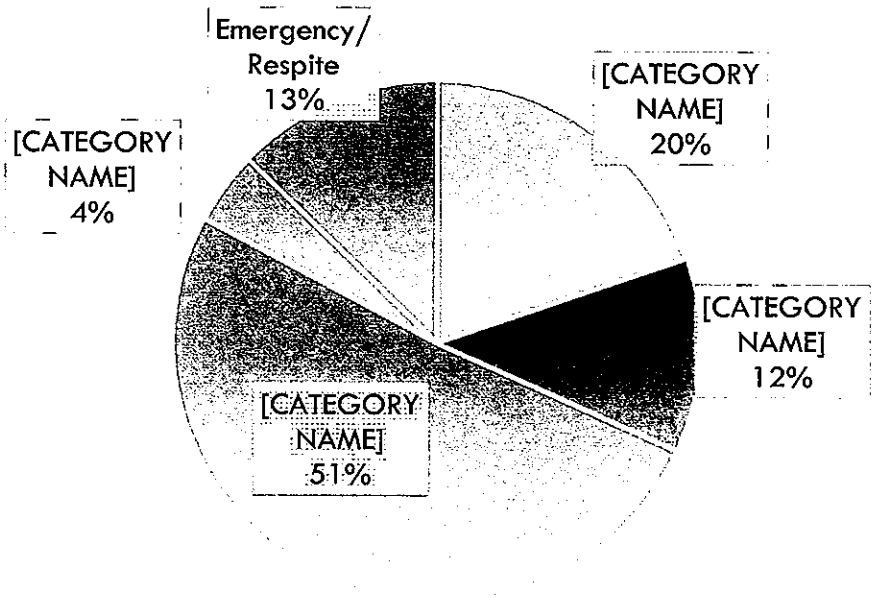
- **Child Protective Services (CPS) received 218 referrals of child abuse/neglect.**
- **218 referrals involved 384 children**
  - 0 of the 218 were co-investigated by OKDHS and CPS
  - 3 of the 218 cases were investigated by CPS on Indian Country
- **0 Cherokee child(ren) were removed from Tribal land due to confirmed abuse/neglect.**

CERTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT

(Foster & Adoptive Homes)

CERTIFICATION SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF November

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 Fost/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.

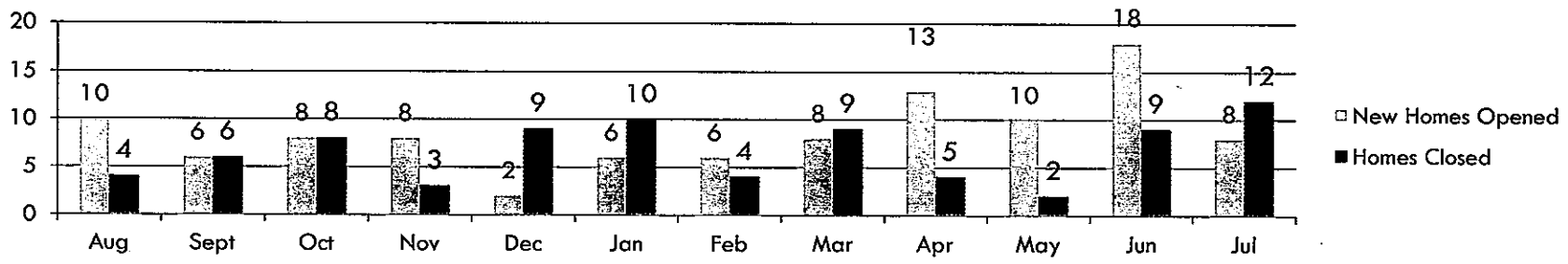
Relative Adoptive/Foster: Families who are related to the children and are fostering them or planning to adopt them. They do not take in children they are not related to.

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

198 Total Homes – note many are in multiple categories

- 53 Non-Relative Foster Only Homes
- 32 Relative Foster and Adoptive
- 137 Non-Relative Fost/Adopt, Non-Relative Adoptive
- 12 Adoptive Only Home
- 34 Emergency/Respite



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Community & Cultural Outreach

Community Report for December 2017

Rob Daugherty – Director

The following report covers the activities of the CCO; COTTA, Community Work and Volunteer Program staff for the month of December 2017.

COTTA Technical Assistance Capacity Building

Capacity Building in December

Number of Community Organizations Assisted in December

18

Received a total of hours of Capacity Building training

The total number of capacity building hours is calculated using the number of leaders from each organization, the number of hours of that training (both classroom and individualized) and any travel time those leaders may have incurred to attend. These are all combined in this number and can be compared to any other month or year.

109

Number of hours of capacity building training received by community leaders

Organization Receiving Technical Assistance in December

Adair County Historical & Genealogical Assoc (D7&8)	Native American Assoc of Ketchum (D10&11)
Boys & Girls Clubs of Adair County (D7&8)	N. Cherokee County Comm Booster Club* (D2)
Brushy Cherokee Action Association (D6)	Noweta Cherokee Community Foundation (D12)
Cherokee National Historical Society (D1)	Proctor Community Center (D7)
Evening Shade (D5)	Spavinaw Youth and Neighborhood Center (D10)
Fairfield Community Organization (D7&8)	Stilwell Public Library Friends Society (D7&8)
Family Support Center of Oaks (D2&9)	Tailholt Community Organization (D2&3)
Marble City Community Building (D5&6)	The Timothy Project* (D9&10)
Mid County Community Organization (D7&8)	Webbers Falls Historical Soc & Museum (D4&5)

* indicates an organization new to the program (D7) indicates the Council Districts served by the organization

The COTTA staff was contacted by two organizations new to the COTTA program in December. These organization serve Cherokees in Districts 2, 9 and 10.

COTTA sent five staff members to a NeighborWorks America training in December. This training was part of our training obligation for the USDA Rural Community Development Initiative grant COTTA was awarded. The goal of this grant program is to increase economic opportunities in rural areas.

Cultural Outreach & At-Large Communities

Because our Cherokee community partners have many things scheduled for December, Outreach staff did not host our normal First Tuesday Cultural Presentation. However, we did host an In-District Presentation. December 7th Matt Anderson shared his knowledge of Cherokee Clay Medallions with Councilman E.O. Smith's District 5 citizens.

45 — **Number attending the District 5 Presentation.**

Volunteer Program

Volunteer staff worked in December with students from Ohio State University. This bring a group of 10 stayed and worked in the Salina area the week prior to Christmas.

Kansas State University is coming in January with a group of 10. They will be working in the Stilwell area. Staff is also working on scheduling other groups for the summer.