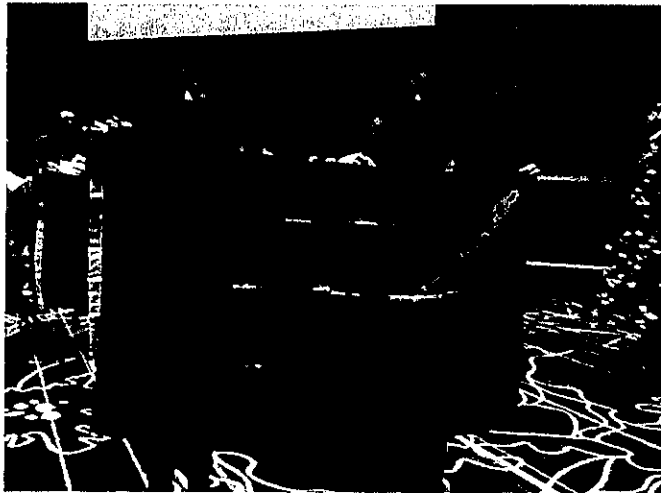


**Education Committee
Career Services
January Monthly Report
Diane Kelley, Executive Director**

The **Alternative Education Program** had 3 students pass all components of the HSE (GED®, HiSET®) Test during the month of November. Our total graduate count is **25** (**19** are Cherokee Nation citizens; **six** are members of different Federally Recognized tribes.) Two of these were clients of the Jack Brown Center. This is more than double the number we had at this same time last year.

Talking Leaves Job Corps' Wellness Department displayed posters all over center regarding Winter Safety Tips for the Winter Break. Posters were also displayed throughout the center regarding the Flu and the importance of hand washing.

The **Vocational Rehabilitation Program** Director was able to meet with the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services' Field Personnel this month, to formulate a plan to



provide employment related services to Individuals with Disabilities via the new Disability Employment Initiative Grant. Personnel is targeted to be on board as soon as possible.

Cherokee Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program met with 88 other tribal administrators at the Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR) this month. At Grand Entry and representing the Cherokee Nation VR Program is Mary Ross, VR Counselor and Courtney Cowan, VR Special Assistant.

Mike Perryman, Roy Poteet and Jon Overacker have been certified by The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). NCCER is a not for profit 501(c)(3) created in 1996. It was developed with the support of more than 125 construction CEO's and other academic leaders. Mike, Roy and Jon are now certified to teach Carpentry level classes. The current **Building Trades** class will now use this curriculum for their training. The training will include classroom training as well on the job performance training to ensure out Citizens are well rounded in the carpentry



field. Specialized trade trainings with apprenticeship opportunities will be forthcoming in the near future.

Vocational Programs Participant Success:

Betsy Bunch is a 52 year old Cherokee Citizen who completed training at Carl Albert in child Development. While in training, she and her husband adopted a baby. Betsy then developed some medical problems that prevented her from entering employment. Once her medical problems were cleared, she began putting in applications for employment.

Betsy received an offer of employment from the Kituwah Academy Immersion School in North Carolina. This presented Betsy and her family with a big decision. Her husband was a pastor at a church in Stilwell and their daughter was in pre-kindergarten. Betsy decided to accept the job offer and went to work on December 12, 2017 with a wage of \$17.18 per hour. Her husband was able to find a church in the area and they moved their family into a home owned by the school.

Betsy said it paid off as she and her family are very happy in their new home. "The Lord will take care of us when He is ready for us."

Vocational Programs Participant Success:

Cameron Coombs, a Practical Nursing student at Northeast Area Vo-Tech in Afton, began his training in August 2017. The tentative date of completion has been scheduled for September 30, 2018. As Cameron is very bright and does well in school, he may complete the LPN training at an earlier date. His long term goal is to continue in nursing and become a Registered Nurse.

Cameron not only attends as a full time student but he is married and the proud father of two children. Adaya, his daughter is 3 years old, and Kalen Grey Coombs, 4 ½ months old is his son. Kalen was born with Microtia. He has Bilateral Microtia, meaning both ears are affected causing total deafness in both ears. Ninety percent of children born with Microtia only have one ear affected. Kalen was the ten percent that was born with both ears affected. The cause of Microtia is unknown, and it's congenital, meaning it was present at birth. Cameron and his spouse were not aware Kalen had this problem until birth.

As Cameron is learning in school, new and advanced techniques and medications become available each year. Kalen was recently fitted with a BAHA Hearing System. This is a cochlear hearing aid that is external since the child is so young. It uses vibration onto the skull to stimulate the cochlear to produce sound so Kalen can hear. This system is extraordinary as Kalen has no ear canal or ear drum. Cameron and his wife were so excited when the doctor placed this system on Kalen's head and he could hear for the very first time! When Kalen is at an appropriate age, 5 or 6, he will have surgery and implants will be permanently placed.



Nursing students have much education and training that has to be absorbed in a very short time. This student studies at night and tries to be prepared for each new day. Cameron states he is so proud to be a Practical Nurse student and have the opportunity to learn these skills and to make a difference in others' lives. With continued training and his positive attitude this young man will be an excellent nurse at any level.

College Resource Center**Fall 2017 Funding Summary**

4,860 scholarship awards to 333 college/universities, representing 36 states. 27 confirmed graduates.

- 417 Concurrent Enrollment
 - 82 Juniors
 - 335 Seniors
- 4,325 Cherokee Nation Scholarships
 - 3,894 Undergraduate Scholarships
 - 1,294 Freshmen
 - 1,037 Sophomores
 - 876 Juniors
 - 687 Seniors
 - 431 Graduate Scholarships
 - 334 Masters
 - 97 Doctoral
- 51 Cherokee Promise Scholars
 - 8 Freshmen
 - 20 Sophomores
 - 14 Juniors
 - 9 Seniors
- 61 Freshmen Supplemental Scholars
- 6 Directed Studies Scholarships

Outreach & Presentations:

Christmas Break – no outreach during this period.

Future Plans:

1. Scheduling visits to public schools for assistance in applying for Cherokee Nation Scholarships for the 2018-19 school year.
2. February 1, 2017 – Class of 2018 Valedictorian & Salutatorian Scholarship applications available online at <https://scholarships.cherokee.org>. Deadline will be April 15, 2018 at 11:59pm central time.
3. February 1, 2017 – school year 2018-19 Cherokee Nation Scholarships open for application, apply online at <https://scholarships.cherokee.org>. Deadline for applications will be June 15, 2018 at 11:59pm Central Time.

Head Start

Activity

December

YTD

# of classrooms/sites	63 classrooms 21 sites	63 classrooms 21 sites
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# of parent meetings conducted	25 Meetings Conducted	129 Conducted
# of site visits by HS/ECU staff	81 Site Visits	497 Conducted
# of PD hours completed	67.5 hours offered	204.50 hours offered
CC Expenditures - Travel	\$14,287.26	\$23,477.04

Child Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Monthly Meal Counts and Reimbursement
December 2017

Breakfast – 1,976	Lunch – 2,072	Snack – 2,494
Total Food Cost – \$16,158.25	Reimbursement – \$12,826.99	

Accomplishments:

- 1) Four admin/managers passed the Reliability assessment for their Infant/Toddler credential. They attended training in Dallas in October and recently took the exam. Kudos to them in preparation for the federal review.
- 2) The ECU is diligently pursuing the OKDHS 3 Star status at all the sites excluding the Public School sites. Currently, five sites have received the 3-Star status with five applications submitted and one pending submittal.
- 3) A major focus in on the playgrounds and this month the Shady Grove playground was completed with a new piece installed and ceiling was added to their shaded area. The open area constantly had bird or wasp nests. Webbers Falls has received a new playground piece as well and the public school maintenance crew will complete installation.
- 4) The Cherokee Nation ECU was invited to be a participant in a state funded application for Pre-K Literacy by our public school partners. They are: Tahlequah Public School and Maryetta Public School. This grant complements efforts to encourage the joy of reading and involving parents.
- 5) 2 administrative staff applied and were selected to participate in a 6 month leadership class provided by CECPD. They were selected among applicants from all over Oklahoma.

New Initiatives:

- 1) A Sr. Management staff has been invited again to attend a National Language Advisory Board meeting in February to discuss the ECU language efforts. The Advisory Board convenes in Washington, DC and is comprised of Head Start staff from across the country to design a plan that promotes the various language and cultural aspect of the Head Start delivery system. It's an honor for ECU to be invited back to the board meeting.
- 2) The primary focus is preparing for the federal audit and training is an ongoing effort. Training is scheduled regularly in the various domains of classroom instruction, various paperwork required of each student and family, Policy Council training, services to children with special needs and entering data and compiling and analyzing. You will find attached to this report data collected for the month of December. Five staff are attending the Child Passenger Safety Training in January 27, 2018. This training on the proper way to install car seats is offered to all parents.
- 3) Several ECU advisory board meetings are scheduled in January. They are all at 11:30-1:00 with lunch provided:
 - a. Quarterly Superintendents meeting is January 17, 2018.
 - b. Monthly Policy Council meeting is January 18, 2018.
 - c. Health Advisory Board meeting is January 25, 2018.

d. Education Advisory Board is January 30, 2018.

JOM/Johnson O'Malley Program

JOM Program

Activity

January

YTD

	JOM	Special Projects	Public School Outreach	YTD Total
# of students on program	25,655 (1/18/18)	-		25,679
# of schools participating	68			76
# of communities participating	3	-		3
# of special events		5		56
# participants students/adults		798/		11,678/153
# of school staff participating		27		881
# of contractors participating	3			82

Accomplishments:

1. 2018 OKJOM Conference planning meeting 12/14/17
2. JOM Staff assisted Special Projects with Cherokee Nation JOM Art Contest 1/10/18
3. JOM FS Coordinator attended Jay IEC meeting, 4 IEC, JOM Contact and 1 student in attendance 1/0/18
4. JOM Field Specialist delivered art work to Gore, Hulbert, Lowery, and Muldrow.
5. JOM Staff processing claims/reimbursements and budget revisions
6. Grandview School was selected as the State JOM Exemplary Program for 2018.

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

JOM:

1. 2018 OKJOM Planning meeting 1/18/18 Cherokee Nation
2. JOM Field Specialist Coordinator – get acquainted activities with 2018 RTR Candidates 1/20/18
3. JOM Staff will be doing site visits at their schools.

Up Coming Events:

CCES in Adair January 15 – 18

Cherokee Writing Competition Deadline January 26

Cherokee Science and Engineering Fair February 1

CCES in Tulsa- February 5 – 9

Sequoyah Schools

Total Enrollment—359

Dorm Enrollment—62

9th Grade—89

Boys—36

10th Grade—96

Girls—26

11th Grade—91

12th Grade—83

15 Mid-graduates

SHS Indians and Lady Indians were Tournament Champions at Lincoln

Congratulations to SHS Sr. Brittney Bush-signed letter of intent at Coffeyville Community College

Congratulations Pride of Sequoyah Band members chosen Eastern Oklahoma Band Directors Association Honor Band

Flute: Katie Hallum

Clarinet: Athena GoingSnake

Bass Clarinet: Mia Vinson

Alto Sax: Jared Blackbear

Trumpet: Laney Cully

Trombone: Chayton Hall & Bailey Stone

Percussion: Robert Chanate & Rylan Stalnaker

1st alternate Tuba: Josiah Chaffin