

# **CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

**Executive Director:** Martha Ketcher **Phone:** 918-453-5248 **E-mail:** Martha-Ketcher@cherokee.org

### **Comments:**

#### **ADAIR COUNTY PROJECTS:**

1. Honey Hill Phase I –T. McDonald Construction has been awarded the contract. Construction is 99% complete and on schedule at this time. A Final inspection is scheduled for 6-22-2018

#### **CHEROKEE COUNTY PROJECTS:**

1. Northeast Fort Gibson- Cherokee County RWD 1 is nearing completion of the mainline. Muskogee County RWD 7 and HPWA are making service crossings.
2. Ross Street- Construction plans are at 90% stage. Attending weekly OAC meetings to keep updated on progress of CNOHC to collate with our project. In house plan review is in progress. Two remaining parcels needed for right-of-way have been submitted for condemnation. Notice to Proceeds (Partial) were issued to NOPFA and Tahlequah Cable TV with the restriction of the two remaining parcels that are not secured. Pre bid meeting was held for the TPWA waterline relocation with the bid opening scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup>.
3. NE Ft. Gibson – Cherokee RWD # 1 and Muskogee RWD #7 are pressure testing and preparing to place the new waterlines in service.

#### **CRAIG COUNTY PROJECTS:**

1. NS-4340 Road –Preconstruction meeting for the Craig County RWD #2 waterline relocation is scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **DELAWARE COUNTY PROJECTS:**

1. Leach/Kenwood Road – Construction is at 70% complete. Contract liquidated damages began on February 11, 2017. As of May 31, 2018 the number of days have accumulated to -475 days over the contract time at \$1000.00 per day. There is no work being performed.

#### **MAYES COUNTY PROJECTS:**

1. Chimney Rock – Construction has began for the RWD # 9 Mayes County relocation.

#### **MUSKOGEE COUNTY PROJECTS:** No updates at this time

1. .

# **CHEROKEE NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **SEQUOYAH COUNTY PROJECTS:**

1. Moonshine Road – A ribbon cutting was performed on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Zion Holiness Church. Present at the ceremony was Principal Chief Baker, Deputy Chief Crittenden, Secretary of State Chuck Hoskins Jr., Mayor of Vian, Dennis Fletcher, and Sequoyah County Commissioner Steve Carter.

### **III. CHEROKEE TRANSIT SYSTEM:**

Ridership on all routes for the month of May 2018 were:

1. Sallisaw to Tahlequah – 158 rides
2. Pryor to Catoosa – 747 rides
3. Salina to Tahlequah – 105 rides
4. Stilwell to Tahlequah – 75 rides
5. Muskogee to Tahlequah – 140 rides
6. Tahlequah to Pryor/Claremore – 100 rides
7. Tahlequah to Catoosa – 315 rides
8. Stilwell to West Siloam Springs – 324 rides
9. Tahlequah to Muskogee – 59 rides
10. Individual Demand Response Trips: 6941

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

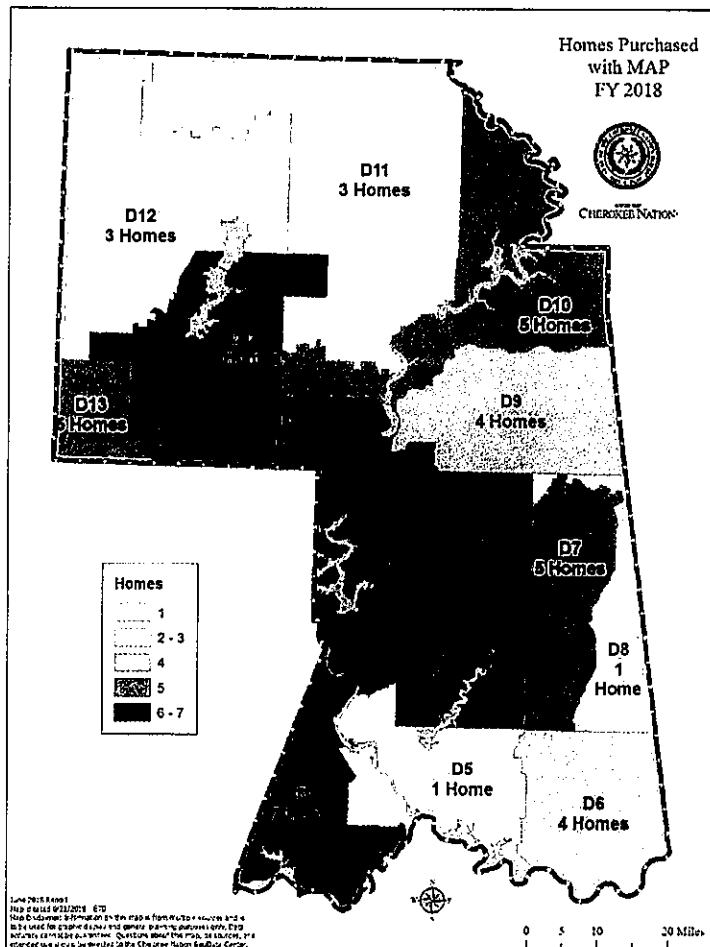


**73 Families became Homeowners** through financial counseling and down payment assistance.

37 families used the HUD 184 Loan Program.

### MAP Household Averages

Household income	\$35,117.12
Home Price	\$95,098.01



Since FY2009, **1,685 households** have used the Mortgage Assistance Program to invest in their family's future and purchase a home.

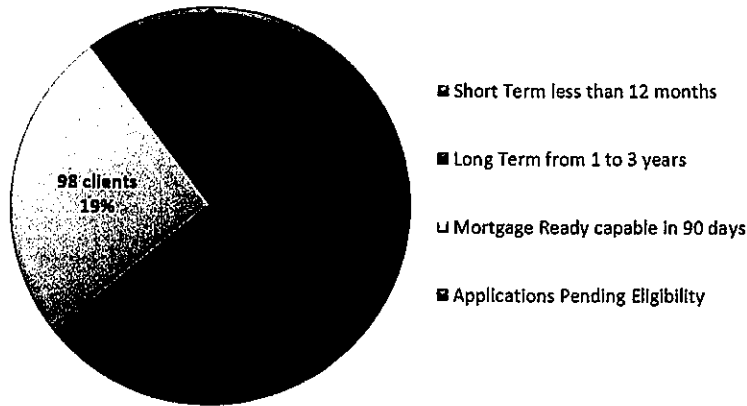
58.9% of families who purchased a home in FY18 moved up at least one level in the **Financial Prosperity Spectrum**.

*MAP is an awesome program and I am thankful for the assistance I received. We've been in our new home for close to six months now. My son got a dog and both my kids love the home and being able to play outside.*

*J. Dry, Mortgage Assistance Program recipient, Cherokee County*

## Financial Counseling

### MAP Applications and Financial Counseling

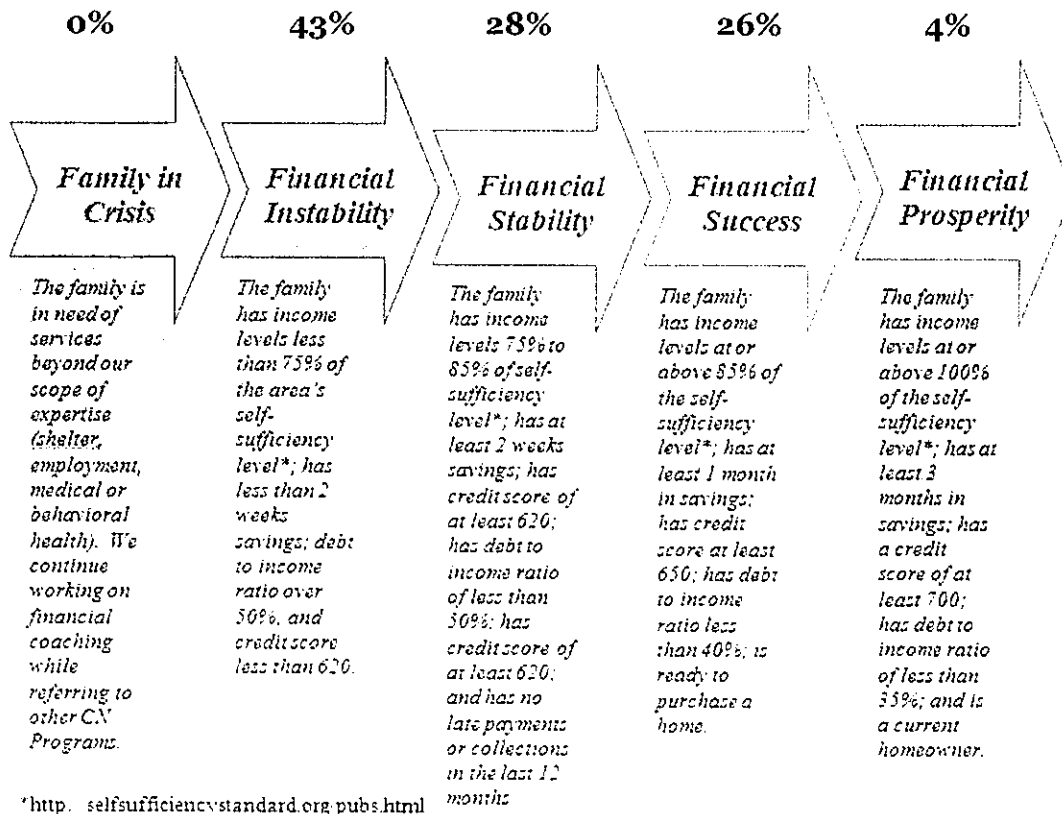


**380 families are in the home buyers' pipeline**, either having completed or active in financial counseling.

Since FY07, **858 families unable to obtain a non-predatory mortgage on their own** have completed self-sufficiency counseling and obtained a non-predatory mortgage.

**44 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.



**664 families** have participated in financial and credit coaching this year.

390 families still actively pursuing goals

4% financial prosperity  
26% financial success  
28% financially stable  
43% financially instable

### Financial Counseling Impact

Increase to Credit Score	58 points
Debt to Income with Mortgage	29.08%
Debt to Income Reduction after Counseling	2.52%

**1,414 consumer loans totaling \$1,605,100.12** have been made through the Small Business Assistance Center as of August 15th. One of these was a **Foreclosure Prevention loan totaling \$11,594.88**. Year to date, Self Sufficiency staff members have worked with **2 families facing foreclosure**. 1 family has stopped participating in the program and 1 family received a loan modification with the original mortgage holder to save their home.

**317 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 **145 families have attended these classes**, which are held throughout the Cherokee Nation.

Financial education classes are offered at no cost. Employees and the public have the opportunity to attend financial education classes on topics ranging from spending plans, balancing checkbooks and couponing. Year to date, **274 people have attended community and work based financial education classes**.

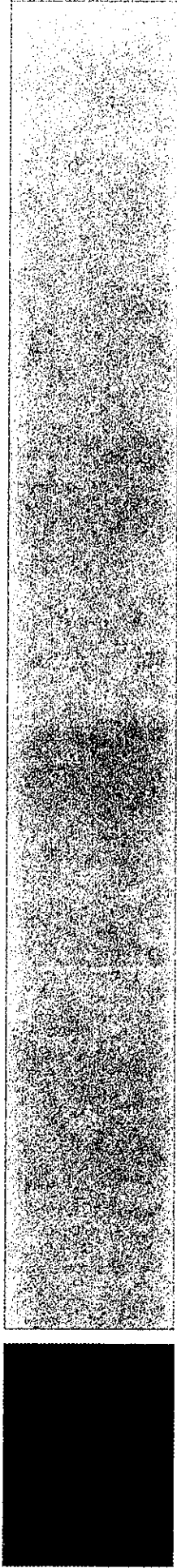
## Training Schedule

Interested in attending a class? Contact Susan Sharp at 918-453-5536 or [susan-sharp@cherokee.org](mailto:susan-sharp@cherokee.org).

Workshops and Classes			
Date	Location	Time	Workshop
July 2	Tahlequah	11:00 am and 12:00 pm	Financial Empowerment
July 18	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
July 19	Sallisaw HACN	11:00 am and 12:00 pm	Financial Empowerment
July 23-25	Claremore	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
July 25	Claremore	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
July 28	Jay	Saturday All Day	Homebuyers Training
July 31	Jay Sam Hider Clinic	11:00 am and 12:00 pm	Financial Empowerment
August 7	Tahlequah	11:00 am and 12:00 pm	Financial Empowerment
August 13-15	Tahlequah	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
August 11	Claremore	Saturday All Day	Homebuyers Training

*Commerce Group*  
*Home Buyers and Asset Building Report*

August 15	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
August 16	Sallisaw Red Bud Clinic	11:00 am and 12:00 pm	Financial Empowerment
August 28	Jay Sam Hider Clinic	11:00 am and 12:00 pm	Financial Empowerment
September 8	Sallisaw	Saturday All Day	Homebuyers Training
September 12	Tahlequah	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class
September 15	Jay	Saturday All Day	Homebuyers Training
September 15	Tahlequah	Saturday All Day	Homebuyers Training
September 17-19	Claremore	5:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Homebuyers Training
September 19	Claremore	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Financial Education Class



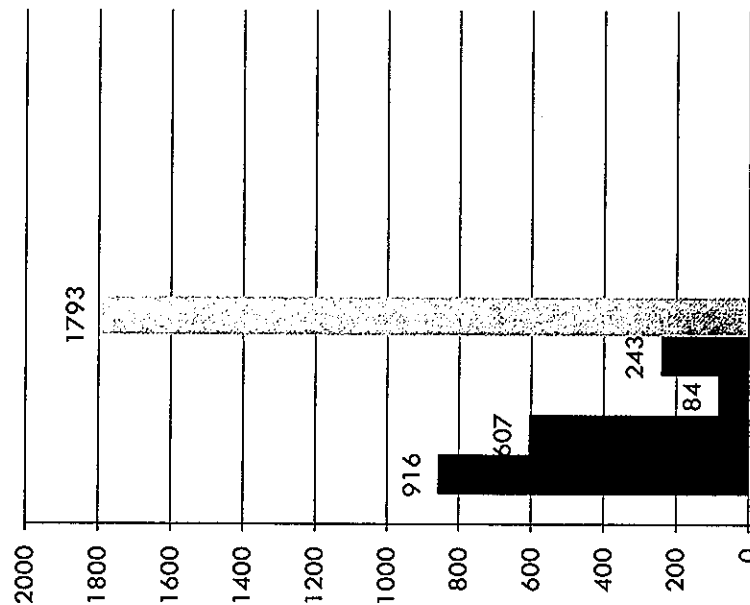
# CHEROKEE NATION INDIAN CHILD WELFARE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2018

Nikki Baker-Limore, Executive Director

# Protecting Children, Families and the Nation

**Month of May:**  
**1,793 Children**

with Assigned ICW Workers



## Programs with court interaction

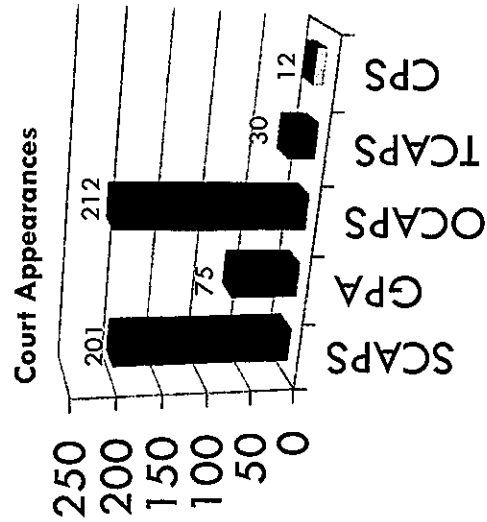
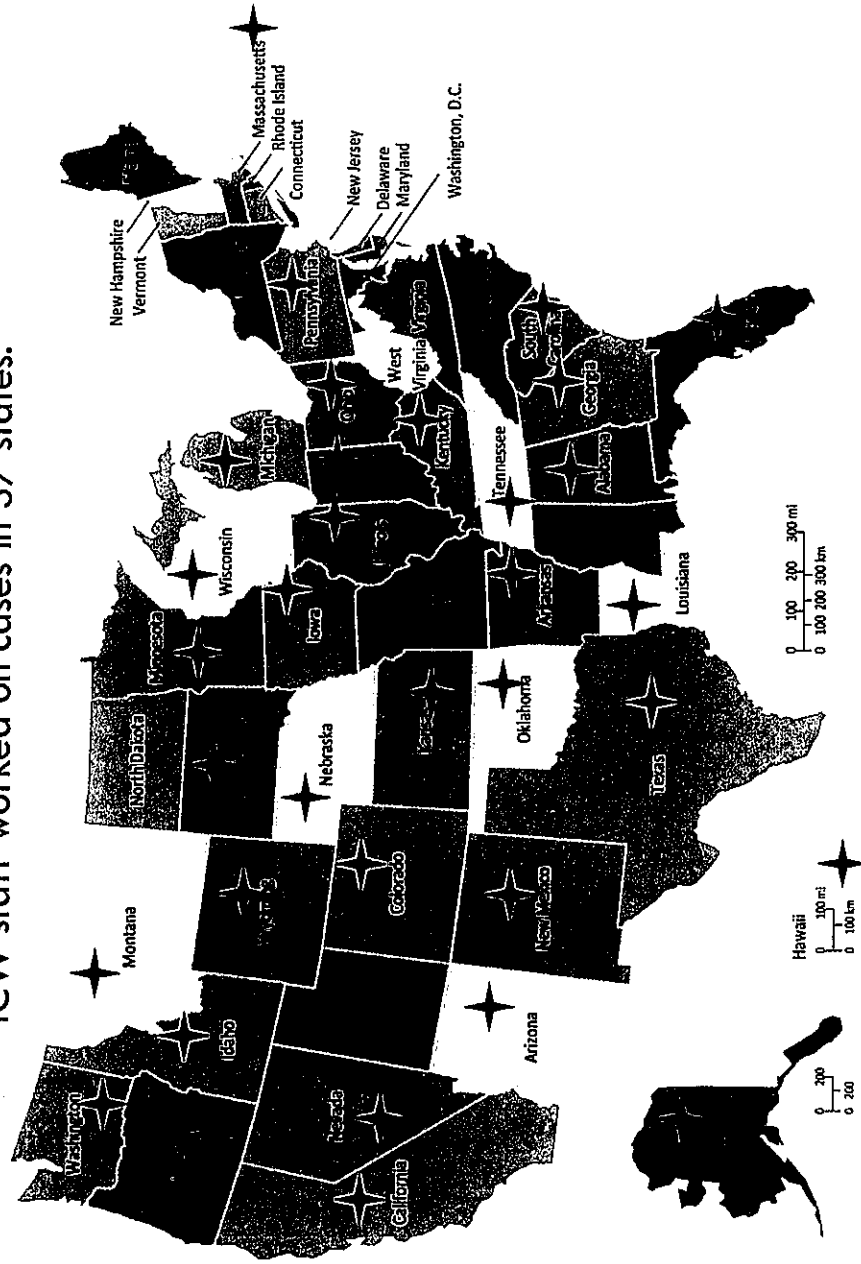
- ☐ **OCAPS: Out-Of-District Court Advocacy and Permanency Services**
  - ☐ Involved in child welfare cases in non-jurisdiction counties in Oklahoma and all 50 states.
  - ☐ Most work is done telephonically or electronically.
  - ☐ Emphasis on education about the Indian Child Welfare Act and ensuring 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 civil adoption cases to include voluntary adoption, involuntary adoption and birth parent adoptions.
  - ☐ 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 Courts and State Courts throughout the United States.
- ☐ **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 May:**  
Indian Child Welfare workers  
went to court 530 times on  
behalf of Cherokee children  
and families.

ICW staff worked on cases in 37 states.



■ SCAPS ■ GPA ■ OCAPS ■ TCAPS □ CPS

# 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 May

(Computer system is down at the moment.

Email will be forthcoming for this information.)

## Prevention and Intervention

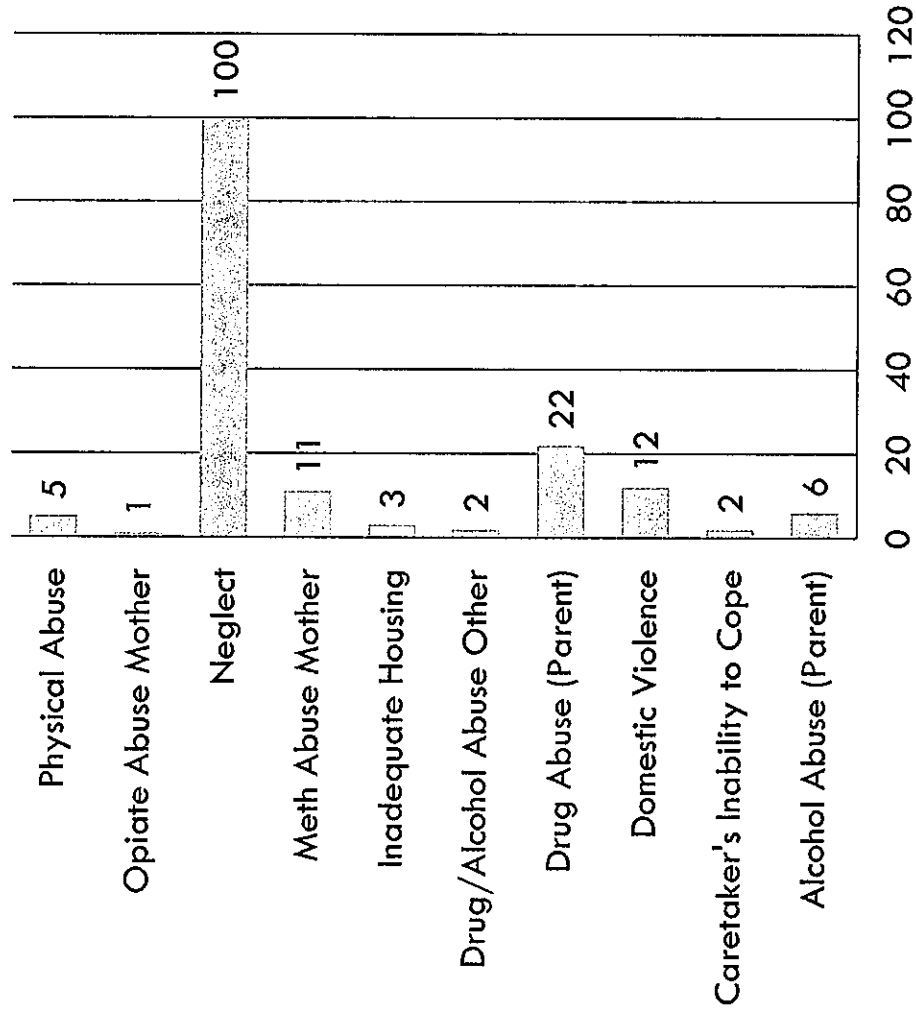
Indian Child Welfare Family Protection Services Unit (FPS) assists families in need of hands-on training to correct the conditions that lead to children being removed from their home. These services often include completing a 28 week parenting program that discusses topics like discipline, nutrition,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

FPS served 20 children and 12 families.

# Child Protective Services

Types of Abuse/Neglect Reported



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

## Month of May

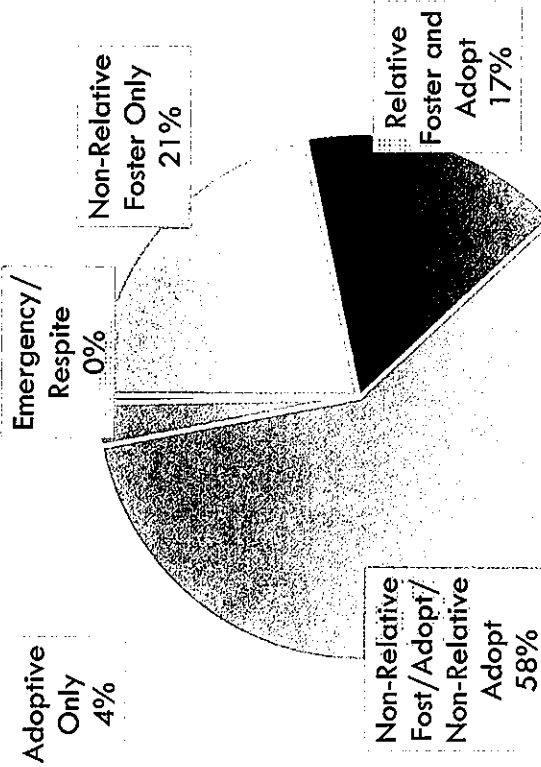
- Child Protective Services (CPS) received 324 referrals of child abuse/neglect.
- 324 referrals involved 568 children
  - 2 of the 324 were co-investigated by OKDHS and CPS
  - 8 of the 324 cases were investigated by CPS on Indian Country
- 4 Cherokee child(ren) were removed from Tribal land due to confirmed abuse/neglect.

# CERTIFICATION AND PLACEMENT

## (Foster & Adoptive Homes)

CERTIFICATION SERVICES FOR THE  
MONTH OF MAY

### 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 Foster/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.

