

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

The **Alternative Education Program** had **eight** students pass all components of the HSE (GED®, HiSET®) Test during the month of June. Our total graduate count is **72** (**66** are Cherokee Nation citizens; **six** are members of different Federally Recognized tribes and **two** are/were clients of the Jack Brown Center.)

This year's Graduation will be held at NSU in the Ballroom on September, 20, 2018.

We are currently interviewing for an Adult Education Teacher for the Sallisaw area.

Landra Alberty, Linda Pruitt and Crystal Dugger did outreach at the TOSS (Teachers of Successful Students) Conference at NSU on June 6th and 7th.

Talking Leaves Job Corps recognized Mental Health Week – May 14th through May 20th. Talking Leaves Job Corps students set up a Booth in the Non-Residential Lounge on Campus and provided documentation regarding Mental Health & Disabilities. They also showed movies all month, one per week in the evening hours, based on Mental Health and Disabilities.

Alternative Education & SP-NDWG Participant Success:



David Petersen's story begins like many of those who have lost their jobs. All too often people suffer from feelings of depression and anxiety, because they are worried about how to pay bills and provide for their family. This version is one with storybook possibilities. Petersen, 29, who resides in Park Hill Oklahoma with his wife and three children, ages 3-10 had a stable life before he was laid off from his job as a pipe welder. "I had worked for a steel shop since I was 18 year's old. First as a shop helper and then moved my way up to pipe welder over the last five years," said Petersen.

The steel shop closed their doors in 2017 and rather than dwell on the negatives, Petersen viewed this as his chance to move on to something better. He turned to Cherokee Nation Career Services for guidance and met with counselors who helped him develop a plan for success. The plan included completing his GED through Cherokee Nation Adult Education. Brenda Fitzgerald, Director of the sector partnership grant at Cherokee Nation, sees numerous individuals come to Career Services in the same situation as



Petersen. "David came to us after losing his job, with no high school diploma, and no prospects for future employment. David was looking for training and a career, not a handout." said Fitzgerald. "He was searching for a way to provide a good life for his family and their future." Petersen qualified for a program that helped him pursue a certificate in computer drafting at Indian Capital Technology Center. When he completed the program at ICTC he began working as a computer drafter for Teckta America, a custom roofing company based in Muskogee, OK.

This could be the perfect ending to a great story but it's just the beginning for Petersen and his family. "I was recently approved for a scholarship to attend Conner's State College in Warner, OK and pursue an associate degree in mathematics." Petersen said. "After graduating from Conner's my plan is to attend the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa and complete a degree in mechanical engineering." The old saying, "when one door closes another one opens," is perfect for this story. "I really don't know how to put it into words," Petersen said. "I couldn't have done it without the compassion, understanding and direction from Career Services. They made me realize I can do things I didn't think I could do."

Tribal Economic Development Participant Success:

This is a group of newly hired security guards for one of our Cherokee Casino's. With this particular position, unarmed security guards are required to attain their Phase I & II CLEET certification to maintain employment.

We were able to work closely with the worksite and NTC in Pryor to offer this particular class twice a week at the casino to make attendance easier for the students with

them all having different schedules to work. A perfect example of how partner relationships can help our tribal citizens with education and employment.

The group attained their Phase I & II certification. They are currently working as unarmed security guards for one of our casino locations. The entire group would like to say a "big thank you" to Cherokee Nation Career Services Department and the TED (Tribal Economic Development program) for helping them become certified.



Group: Education Services

Month/Year: June 2018

Deputy Executive Director: Ron Etheridge

Phone: 918-453-5153

Email: ron-etheridge@cherokee.org

College Resource Center

School Year 2018-19 Applications Received as of June 15, 2018:

- 5,541 Cherokee Nation Scholarships (Undergraduate, Graduate and/or Concurrent Enrollment)

Accomplishments:

1. 101 Fall 2017 graduates - 4 continued on to graduate school
2. 254 Spring 2018 graduates

Outreach & Presentations:

- 5/14/18—Presentation Val/Sal Awards @ Stigler HS
- 5/15/18—Val/Sal Awards delivered to Barnsdall HS
- 5/16/18—Application Help @ NSU
- 5/17/18—Application Help @ NSU
- 5/18/18—Presentation @ Kansas HS
- 5/20/18—Table/Photo ID Session @ Roland Casino
- 5/21/18—Table/Photo ID Session @ Ft Smith HS
- 6/4/18—Table Community Meeting @ Braggs HS
- 6/5/18—Table Community Meeting @ Stilwell
- 6/6/18—Presentation/College Prep Camp @ NSU
- 6/7/18—Presentation/SYEP Interns @ Complex/HS Conference Rm.

Future Plans:

1. Scheduling of outreach and technical assistance sessions with 14-county and contiguous area schools for 2019-20 online applications.
2. Planning 2018 College & Career Fairs 2018 – Tahlequah and Northern Areas – October/November 2018 TBD

Head Start

Activity	May	YTD
# of classrooms/sites	63 classrooms 21 sites	63 classrooms 21 sites
# of parent meetings conducted	28 Meetings Conducted	248 Conducted
# of site visits by HS/ECU staff	144 Site Visits	936 Conducted
# of PD hours completed	44.75 hours offered	357.00 hours offered

CC Expenditures - Travel	\$2,290.37	\$17,814.46
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Child Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Monthly Meal Counts and Reimbursement
May 2018

Breakfast – 5,200	Lunch – 5,444	Snack – 5,183
Total Food Cost – \$	Reimbursement – \$32,510.84	

Accomplishments:

- 1) The Kenwood Head Start site received a new fence around the entire playground. The material used is a higher gage of fencing and should withstand the vandalism that occurs quite often at Kenwood.
- 2) The ECU received notice of a Cost of Living Allowance for all positions. The COLA will be a 2.6% increase in the base pay per position. The COLA application will be submitted in May.
- 3) Four managers attended the Education training hosted by the Choctaw Head Start in Durant. The primary focus for the training is to prepare for the federal review in regard to data collection, coaching and curriculum enrichment. The national mandate of Practice Based Coaching will be launched this fall in the new school year.
- 4) The ECU managers and supervisors have completed all the updates on the required documents and waiting to process for final approval from internal advisors.
- 5) A major accomplishment is interviewing and filling almost all vacancies with the exception of 6. This is a record low number at this time of year. All efforts are being made to fill the remaining vacancies before school starts this fall.

Upcoming Initiatives:

- 1) Plans are underway to celebrate the 40th year of Head Start services beginning with the new school year. The 25th year of the ECU annual Early Childhood Conference in November will focus on celebration activities.
- 2) The Cherry Tree site sustained damages from the recent storm and will have repair work completed soon on the roof to replace shingles, a section of the fence and a playground piece.
- 3) A small scale re-org is being developed to accommodate the new Coaching initiative. Supervising staff will be reassigned to absorb a few duties of the designated coaches and no existing staff will be eliminated or no new staff added as a result of the re-org.
- 4) A college student group from Ardent Global Service Learning from Georgia and Alabama will volunteer at the ECU sites June 4-8, 2018 to complete special projects like gardens, painting and assisting in developing teaching materials. We appreciate the Community and Cultural Outreach program for including the ECU as a volunteer site.
- 5) The monthly Policy Council meeting is scheduled May 17, 2018.
- 6) The quarterly public school Superintendents meeting is scheduled June 20, 2018.

JOM/ Johnson O'Malley Program**Activity****May/June****YTD**

	JOM	Special Projects	Public School Outreach	YTD Total
# of students on program	26,047 (6/13/18)	-		26,007
# of schools participating	68			206
# of communities participating	3	-		3
# of special events		1		72
# participants students/adults				13,531/213
# of school staff participating		8		1309
# of contractors participating				109

Accomplishments:

1. May 14 – JOM FS Coordinator attended Grove JOM Awards Banquet
2. Technical Assistance provided to school JOM Contacts via phone – Belfonte, Braggs, Claremore, Oaks-Mission, Vian, Verdigris, Welch
3. May 24 – JOM FS Coordinator met with Vinita JOM Contact for JOM 101 training.
4. June 5 - JOM Field Specialists did stickball presentation and storytelling at ACT Camp
5. June 12 - JOM FS did storytelling Camp Cherokee – Kansas High School

Future Plans/New Initiatives:**JOM:**

1. June 18 Jay IEC Meeting
2. June 21 – RTR Return
3. June 22 – Deadline 2018-19 JOM Application submission
4. June 22 – teach basket weaving at CTE/CLMT training
5. June 24 – 28 JOM Strategic Planning
6. July 10 – 2019 Planning meeting Durant, OK
7. July 30 – Present Cultural Crafts to Foster Children - Stilwell

Up Coming Events:

CTE and CLMT June 17 -22

Strategic Planning June 24 - 29



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