

Committee: Community Services
Date: 04/01/24 Committee Date: 04/15/24

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Shotpouch, Victoria Vazquez

RESOLUTION NO. 20-24

COUNCIL OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

**A RESOLUTION RESPONDING TO LEGISLATIVE ACT 01-22; RELATED TO
HOMELESSNESS**

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation (“Nation”) since time immemorial has exercised the sovereign rights of self-government on behalf of the Cherokee people;

WHEREAS, the Nation is a federally recognized Indian Nation with a historic and continual government to government relationship with the United States of America;

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Nation received pandemic response funding under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); the uses for which are outlined by the Council in the Cherokee Nation Respond Recover and Rebuild Plan, Resolution 033-23, and in various legislative acts and resolutions and subject to Council appropriation and oversight;

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Nation, the City of Tahlequah and the entire Cherokee Nation Reservation share in the responsibility of homelessness and issues surrounding unsheltered individuals who are both Cherokee and non-Cherokee alike;

WHEREAS, the Council of the Cherokee Nation previously made an historic authorization of funding to improve housing conditions, improve the sustainability of Cherokee communities and create related positive economic impact 2019, referred to as “The Housing, Jobs and Sustainable Communities Act of 2019”, also known as Legislative Act 20-19;

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Council of the Cherokee Nation amended and increased the funding authorization under the Housing, Jobs and Sustainable Communities Act, which included existing housing programs, new housing programs and authorization for the construction of a crisis shelter not to exceed \$10 million, embodied Legislative Act 20-19;

WHEREAS, The Council of the Cherokee Nation finds that additional data and other information is needed to further study to impact of Housing, Jobs and Sustainable Communities Act for possible extension and expansion of the Act beyond its current expiration date fiscal year 2025 and supports the conduct of said study directed by the Principal Chief and reported back to the Council in fiscal year 2025;

WHEREAS, In 2021, the Principal Chief empaneled a task force of subject matter experts employed by the Cherokee Nation, including representation from the Council of the Cherokee

Nation, to create a strategy with the goal to reduce the number of Cherokee families living in poverty and issue a report;

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Nation Poverty Reduction Strategy Task Force Report identified areas with the largest concentrations families and individuals believed to be unsheltered or in need of crisis housing for both Cherokee and non-Cherokee citizens (Attachment A);

WHEREAS, The Council of the Cherokee Nation finds that in response to the Poverty Reduction Task Force Report identifying Cherokee County as the largest concentration of unsheltered families, as well as a call for a partnership from the City of Tahlequah and its city officials, a collaborative shelter in Tahlequah should be considered immediate priority;

WHEREAS, The Council of the Cherokee Nation authorizes the Principal Chief to negotiate a memorandum of understanding allocating up to \$7 million to the City of Tahlequah for the purposes of an outdoor recreation project (Sports Park), in exchange for approximately 25 acres of land (Attachment B) deemed suitable for the purposes of building the tribe's first crisis shelter, which will include no barrier shelter during extreme weather, provided said up to \$7 million allocation to the City of Tahlequah including provisions that provides for

- Appropriate permanent naming rights to Cherokee Nation, for the Sports Park for the life of the Sports Park.
- Prohibition on advertising at or in connection with the Sports Park by competitors of any wholly owned or controlled business or non-profit entity of the Cherokee Nation and prohibition on advertising at or in connection with the park by any other tribe.
- A legal interest in the Sports Park property and all improvements, which could include partial or whole ownership (with long term nominal lease back) and/or right of first refusal on a future purchase, less Cherokee Nation's allocation of funds provided for herein.
- Complimentary usage of the Sports Park for official Cherokee Nation events, specifically including but not limited to Cherokee National Holiday events, for reasonable periods of time annually.
- Complimentary advertising opportunities at or in connection with the Sports Park for Cherokee Nation and any wholly owned or controlled business or non-profit entity of Cherokee Nation
- Any obligations by the City of Tahlequah, other than permanent naming rights by Cherokee Nation, extend no less than 25 years subject to automatic renewal

WHEREAS, The Council of the Cherokee Nation finds further that the operation of the shelter shall be awarded by contract and provides for and recognizes the Principal Chief's authority to negotiate on the tribe's behalf;

WHEREAS, the Principal Chief advises the Council further that extensive need exists for housing across the Cherokee Nation Reservation and calls for a comprehensive Cherokee Nation Housing Needs Study to commence immediately;

WHEREAS, the Council supports, subject to all relevant constitutional and statutory appropriation and oversight authority, the following projects proposed by the Administration under

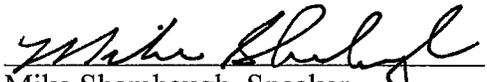
the ARPA-funded Cherokee Nation Respond, Recover Rebuild Plan or dividends received from those governmental entities in which Cherokee Nation is the sole or majority shareholder, loan proceeds, with such available general fund revenue as may by the highest and best use of those various funding sources;

WHEREAS, the Council of the Cherokee Nation agrees to address known needs related to unsheltered Cherokee Nation citizens and identify further needs in a comprehensive housing needs study and allocate respectively as follows;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHEROKEE NATION that the Council of the Cherokee Nation supports the commitment by the Cherokee Nation to collaborate with the City of Tahlequah on a crisis shelter, as prescribed in Legislative Act 01-22, subject to the Principal Chief's negotiation of a memorandum of understanding relating to the allocation of funds for the construction of a Sports Park in Tahlequah by the City of Tahlequah, and requests information and data from the Principal Chief no later than fiscal year 2025 on housing needs across the Cherokee Nation reservation to better inform the Council on future housing policy.

CERTIFICATION

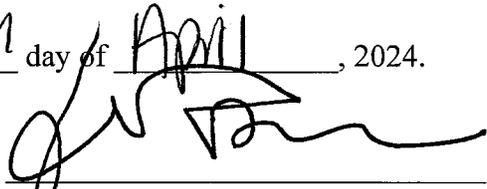
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the Cherokee Nation at a duly called meeting on the 15th day of April, 2024, having 16 members present, constituting a quorum, by the vote of 16 yea; 0 nay; 0 abstaining.


Mike Shambaugh, Speaker
Council of the Cherokee Nation

ATTEST:

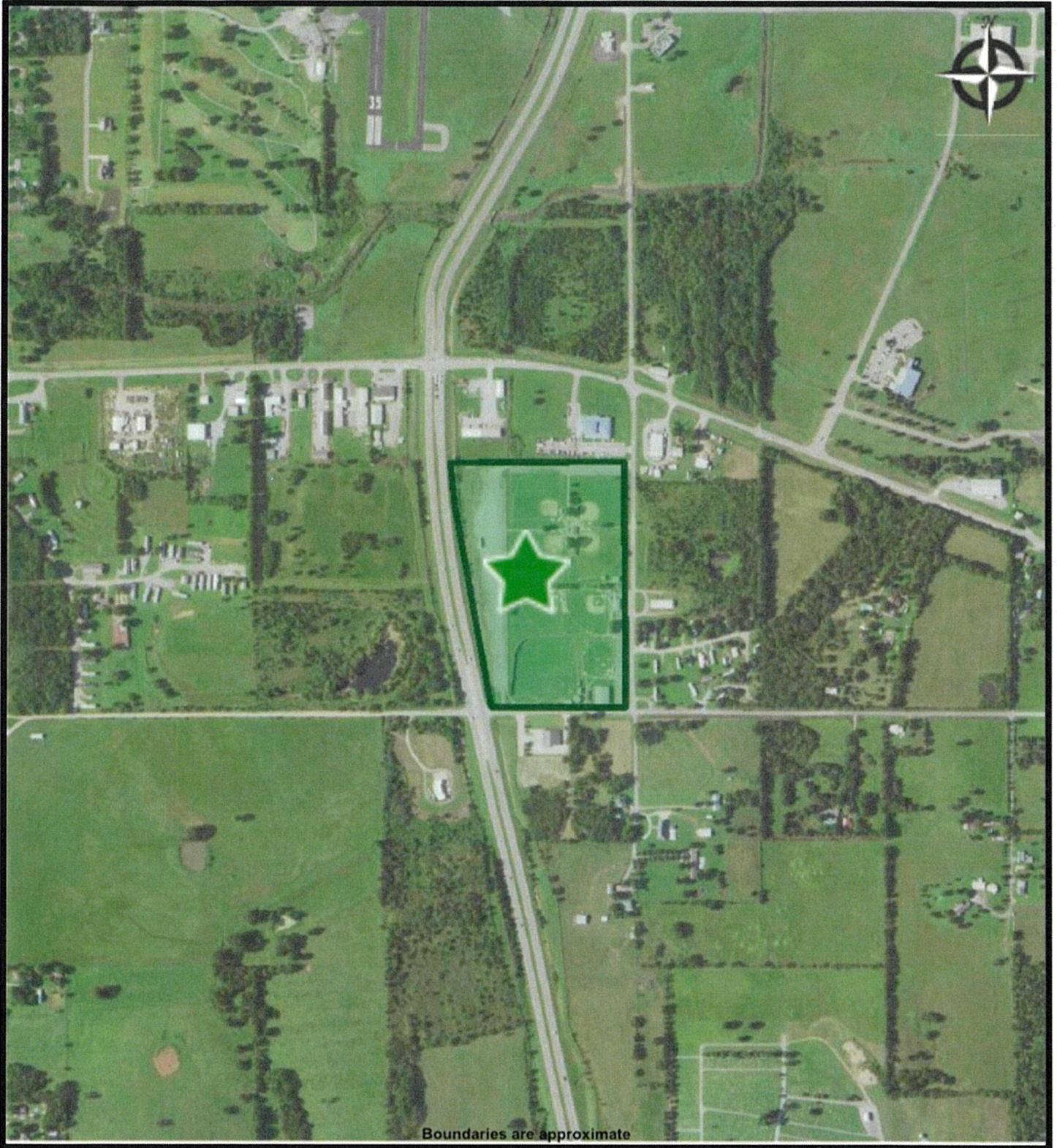

Dora Patzkowski, Secretary
Council of the Cherokee Nation

Approved and signed by the Principal Chief this 19th day of April, 2024.


Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation

ATTEST:

Shella Bowlin, Secretary of State
Cherokee Nation



Boundaries are approximate



SITE LOCATION
PHOENIX PARK
192 South Phoenix Avenue
Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464

PREPARED FOR: Cherokee Nation Commerce

PROJ. MGR: Chelsea Jones

DRAWN BY: Karen Dye

DATE: 10/19/2023

PROJ. #: ITEC231001

Economic Mobility Draft Strategy

Cherokee Nation Poverty Reduction Task Force



Task Force Contributors

- Anna Knight
- Stephen Highers
- Brooklynn Colburn
- Brenda Fitzgerald
- Bridget Tobey
- Taralee Montgomery
- Camerin Fite-James
- Robert Endicott
- Verna Thompson
- Matthew Lamont
- Christina Tiger
- Shay Stanfill
- Corey Bunch
- Lisa Trice-Turtle
- Rhonda Clemons

The Task Force examined poverty levels among targeted populations to determine where CN can make the biggest impact. This strategy targets Cherokee families living at or below 200% of the national poverty level, with an emphasis on single mothers and working families, in addition to addressing generational poverty through student engagement and mentorship programs.

Moving the needle on poverty requires increased household income, so all analysis and proposals addressed either barriers to employment, training, and education, or working with children to break generational poverty.

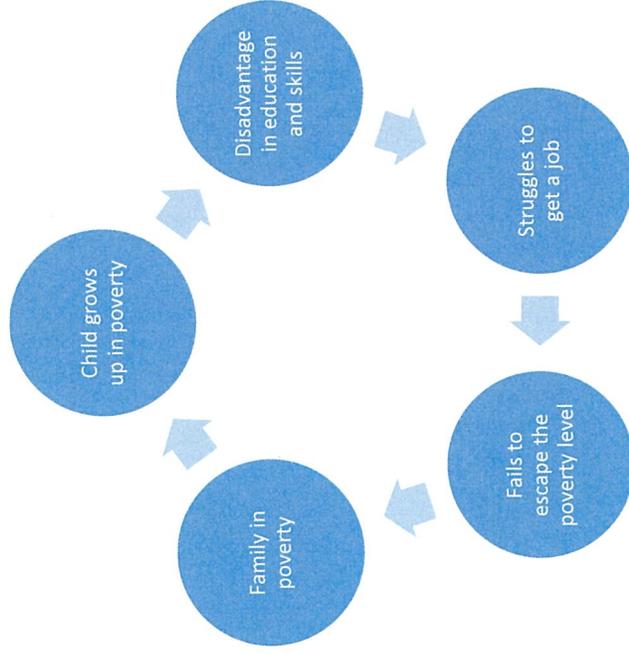
The team examined existing programs to identify gaps and unmet. Programming needs. Best practices were researched to identify evidence-based models making an impact moving families along the poverty spectrum to self-sufficiency. Brainstorming sessions and discussions vetted proposed strategic elements, and general impact and budget information was developed.

The following is the draft strategy recommendations to make a positive impact on poverty among Cherokee Nation citizens on the Cherokee Nation reservation. The strategic elements presented are based on best practices or evidence-based models which focus on increasing household income, addressing barriers to employment and training/education, and addressing generational poverty with focus on youth well-being and mentorship.

Overview

- I. Poverty defined (Page 4)
- II. Poverty within Cherokee Nation (Page 5)
- III. Barriers to Employment and Training (Page 6-21)
- IV. Student Mentorship (Page 22-30)
- V. Mental Health (Page 31-33)
- VI. Cash Transfers (Page 34-35)
- VII. Community Mentorship (Page 36-39)
- VIII. Access to Capital (Page 40-42)
- IX. Property Purchase (Page 43)
- X. Budget Overview (Page 44-48)
- XI. Recommendations for the future (Page 49)

Poverty defined: An income level so low that basic human needs cannot be met. The team identified 200% of the national poverty level as the poverty benchmark for this strategy. Poverty stricken people and families might go without proper housing, clean water, healthy food and medical attention, which is the foundation of generational poverty.



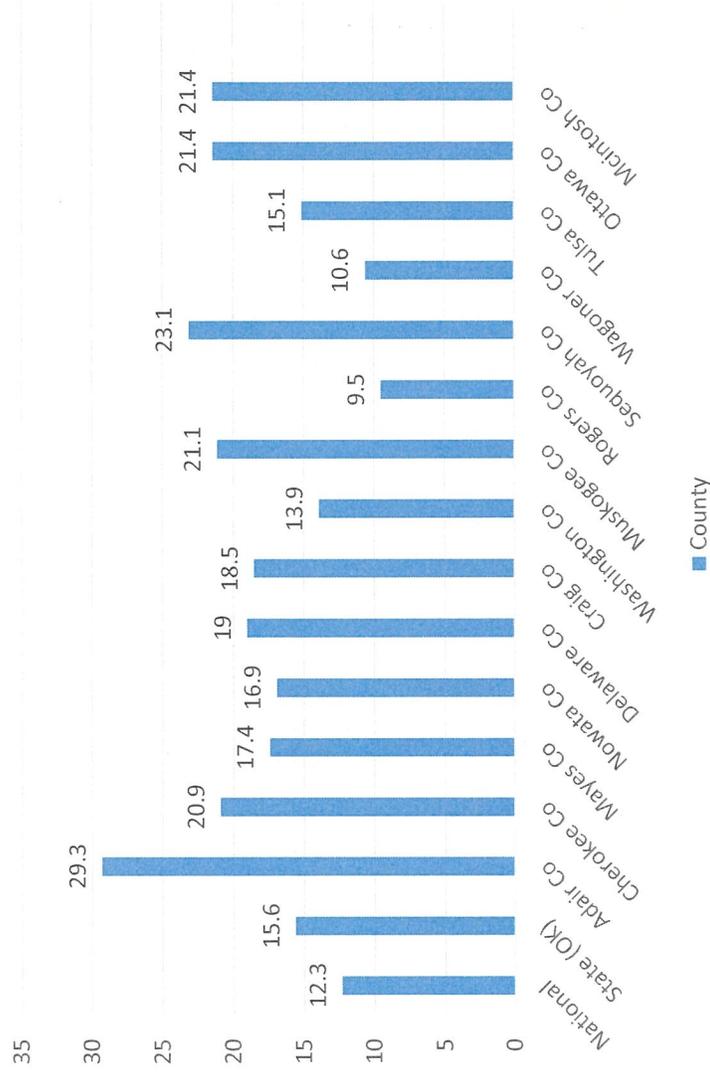
“Moving the Needle” on Poverty

- Increasing household income
- Removing barriers to employment and training
- Focusing on adults that can work
- Providing tools and support to overcome societal, mental, physical, and financial burdens of poverty
- Focusing on children to give them the opportunity to break generational poverty
- Sustainable programming

Oklahoma has a 15.6% poverty rate and is ranked as the 12th poorest state, with the highest percentage of children with ACE score of 4+ and 50% of children score 3+.

The Cherokee Nation Reservation includes counties with some of Oklahoma's highest poverty rates in the state.

Poverty Rates in Cherokee Nation Reservation



Census data show Oklahoma still lags nation in poverty rate - Oklahoma Policy Institute (okpolicy.org)

https://www.cherokeephoenix.org/news/poverty-report-shows-impact-in-chokeee-nation/article_190a7aac-d8aa-54ab-804b-9c0279c63d9e.html

Addressing Barriers to Employment and Training

Childcare

- Increase Childcare Access
 - Summer/Afterschool Childcare
 - Childcare Incentive
- Parents as Teachers
- Expanded Clothing Vouchers

Transportation

- Access to Transportation
- Maintaining Transportation

Housing

- Homeless Emergency Housing
- Halfway and Sober Living Houses
- Community Based Support

Legal Issues

- Legal Aid Services
- Fines and Fees
- Driver's License Assistance

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Summer and Holiday Childcare

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access to quality, safe and affordable childcare during school closures by piloting expanded Boys and Girls clubs Locations: Cherokee County, Mayes County, Nowata County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with school districts to provide Summer/Holiday childcare for students Include programming for empowerment and cultural awareness Implement system to track progress of students Contract with 3 school districts to offer a Boys & Girls Club pilot program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support from schools, clubs, and community Partnership with Boys & Girls Club of Adair County to model their school closure program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 477 Child Care Funding Grant Opportunities for Clubs based on evidence from pilot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase # of affordable, quality childcare options for school aged Increase disposable household income by reducing childcare costs Stabilize and increase employment for parents

What is our estimated budget?
 \$300,000 X 3 clubs X 3 years = \$4,500,000

Reducing barriers to employment and training|Parents as Teachers Pilot Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day training and NACTEP styled program to engage parents with the Early Childhood Unit Parents working in the classroom and other areas will complete a 480-hour prerequisite toward a Child Development Associate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Childhood Unit will identify and recruit parents for background checks and on the job training Early Childhood will ensure training hours work toward the Associate's degree Impact Evaluation System Implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Services to support the payout for the parent trainees to reduce operational costs for the Early Childhood Unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential grant opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase household income for trainees Increase childcare providers for CN or community employment Increase parent involvement thus improving parent/child relationships Aid in fully staffing classrooms

What is our estimated budget?

\$75,000 X 3 years = \$225,000

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Clothing Voucher Program for 0-5 Ages

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially alleviate the financial burden of clothing children for under resourced families at \$150 a child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Services to expand Clothing Voucher Program for 0-5 ages Target income-eligible families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This would be a limited program and future funding will be sought through grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide 2,500 children with clothing Reduce financial burden on parents

What is our estimated budget?
 2,500 children X 150 X 3 = \$1,125,000

Emergency Homeless Shelter Space

County	Poverty %	Homeless	Emergency Beds
Adair County	23.6	35	0
Cherokee County	20.9	65	27
Craig County	18.2	50	0
Delaware County	17.5	45	0
Mayes County	17.7	25	4
McIntosh County	19.7	60	0
Muskogee County	22.7	75	113
Nowata County	15	10	0
Ottawa County	No data to report	No data to report	No data to report
Rogers County	No data to report	No data to report	No data to report
Sequoyah County	21.6	56	0
Tulsa County	14.3	1,250	367
Wagoner County	8.2	20	0
Washington County	12.9	110	75

- Point In Time Annual Survey
- Often underreported
 - Counts homeless 1 day a year
 - Tahlequah Police Chief believes Tahlequah Point In Time count is underreported by 35%

- Homeless Bed Availability
- Beds limited to target populations
 - Wrap around services seldom offered
 - Longer stay facilities limited to Tulsa, Muskogee, and Bartlesville

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Emergency Homeless Housing

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe, stable housing/restoration program for most vulnerable populations • Proposed locations: Southern Delaware County, Cherokee County, Sequoyah County, and Craig County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with a experienced organization to start, manage, and provide ongoing financial support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced stigmatization of homelessness • Community partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-sufficient after year 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase # of emergency homeless beds • Support training participants and stable employment • Decrease social service costs, including healthcare
<div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless are frequent emergency room visitors at 5x per year, totaling \$18,500 to \$44,400 annually per homeless person - The Costs of Homelessness Green Doors • Average annual cost to the community to keep one homeless person on the streets is \$31,165 - Leaving Homeless Person On The Streets: \$31,065. Giving Them Housing: \$10,051. — ThinkProgress </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">What is our estimated budget?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$2,500,000 x 4 shelters = 10,000,000</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 year of initial operating expenses, including property purchase and homeless transportation</p> </div>				

Reducing barriers to employment and training | HOPE Houses

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable, affordable, and supportive housing for people transitioning out of in-patient rehabilitation Provide space for those leaving the upcoming CN inpatient clinic Proposed separate spaces for men and women in Tahlequah, Sallisaw, and Wagoner (building in Wagoner already secured by possible contractor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with an experienced organization to start, manage, and sustain facilities Potential contractor will contribute additional money in year 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health partnership to ensure client's needs are being met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-sufficient after year 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase rehabilitation and support services for vulnerable populations Decrease chances of relapse by "stepping" back into society
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relapse rates are as high as 65 to 70 percent within 90 days from completion of treatment, so reliable predictors of addiction relapse are a worthwhile research endeavor - The Truth About Relapse Rates and Addiction Recovery (beachhousehabcenter.com) Relapse rates for halfway houses is 39% - What Is The Success Rate Of Halfway Houses? - Halfway House Directory 				
<p>What is our estimated budget?</p> <p>\$160,000 X 4 facilities X 1 year = \$640,000 260,000 x 2 facilities X 1 year = \$520,000 \$1,160,000 investment</p>				

Reducing barriers to employment and training | RISE: Uniting Non-Profit Communities

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical assistance and financial support to community-based organizations to create community support programs for food pantries, clothing pantries, and homeless feeding programs Financial support not for staffing, volunteer based 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with community organizations to develop a centralized community nonprofit Needs will be identified and community driven programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community support Community nonprofit to obtain sustainable grant funding United effort by churches and benevolent organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community organization would be self-sufficient after year 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase # of community-based services for low-income Cherokee families Reduce social services for eligible families Impact 100 families weekly X 13 counties X 3 years = 202,800 families annually (excludes Cherokee County)

What is our estimated budget?

13 counties X 76,923 X 1 year = \$1,000,000

13 counties X 38,461 X 2 years = \$1,000,000

\$2,000,000 3 year period

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Contract with mechanics

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide affordable automotive repair for CN training participants and Bridges Out of Poverty participants • Subsidize repair with specific mechanics • Participants responsible for partial costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with Career Services for training participant referrals • Establish eligibility criteria based on employment • Implement system to track impact on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Services referral process from Career Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Readiness Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase # of individuals in Cherokee Nation training programs • Reliable transportation for training participants • Improve employment opportunities and job retention

What is our estimated budget?
 100 participants X 2,500* X 3 years = \$750,000
 *maximum cost, impact may be higher

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Driving Out Of Poverty Pilot Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable auto lending program for training participants and Bridges Out of Poverty participants Access to a car increases employment opportunities and wages Mechanic contracts from repair program will include vehicle inspections for loan program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral program with Career Services Career Services case managers will vet referrals that meet eligibility requirements and employment and training requirements Implement system to measure impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership between Career Services and Commerce Services Contracts with auto mechanics Staff person to oversee fund – costs from EDTA revenue or grant funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program will be sustained as a revolving loan program Grant funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased employment opportunities for trainees and Bridges participants Increase household income Increase work productivity Improve health markers due to resource access

What is our estimated budget?
 \$2,000,000 3 year period revolving loan program
 Average loan size 7,000, estimated impact 400 families

“National studies show that recipients are more likely to find a job and increase earnings if they have access to a car”

Vermont Department of Housing and Urban Development
talking about their state’s car ownership program:

- 60% of clients obtained employment after receiving a car
- 93% attributed their ability to keep a job to the car they received
- 73% attributed increased earnings to having a car
- 78% were more hopeful about their future and their children’s future
- 97% reported a change in community participation

<https://dmv.vermont.gov/tax-title/vehicle-title>

<https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/AECF-AffordableCarOwnershipPrograms-2007.pdf>

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Stabilize Transportation PICK Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "PICK Transportation provides curb to curb mobility services on demand. • Users within the service area can book on-demand public transit trips through smartphones or web portal via the Uber app. • PICK Transportation connects riders to many destinations including school, job, appointments, home, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation and Infrastructure will expand current pilot program with PICK, offering safe, reliable rides in various communities • Monday through Friday 5pm-10pm and Saturdays from 10am to 2pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation and Infrastructure will manage contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential grant opportunities using proven impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide safe, reliable, and affordable rides to Cherokee citizens after "normal business hours" • Improve employment and job retention rates • Increase household income with reliable transportation

What is our estimated budget?
1,500,000 for 3 years

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Legal Aid

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free legal services for Career Services trainees and Bridges Out of Poverty participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with Oklahoma Legal Aid for providers dedicated to CN referrals Impact evaluation system 3 Attorneys and 1 paralegal – 1 based north, 1 south, and 1 Tahlequah Attorneys will “ride a circuit to maximize impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with Career Services to provide base and circuit office space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential grant funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serve 600 + Cherokee citizens per year Reduce legal barriers to obtaining and maintaining employment

What is our estimated budget?
 (3 attorneys X 80,000) + (1 paralegal X 50,000) X 3 years = \$870,000

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Legal Fines and Fees

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist Career Services trainees and Bridges Out of Poverty participants with partial payment of legal fees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with Career Services Career Services working with State agencies and courts to reduce fines/fees when possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Services program guidelines and program management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential grant funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase employment opportunities for graduating trainees Reduce financial barriers to employment Increase trainee graduate wages Decrease social services costs

What is our estimated budget?

1,000 X 100 participants X 3 years = \$300,000

Reducing barriers to employment and training | Driver's License Assistance

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist Career Services trainees and Bridges Out of Poverty participants with driver's license reinstatement and associated costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Services will identify trainees based on employment opportunities Impact evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Services will manage program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential grant opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve employment opportunities Increase household income by decreasing transportation costs

What is our estimated budget?
 1,000 X 150 participants X 3 years = \$450,000

Student Mentorship

- I. Tutoring K-8
- II. Tutoring 9-12
- III. Parents as Teachers, Assistants, Traffic Patrol
- IV. College Outreach to Cherokee Students
- V. Native American Support Center at Northeastern State
- VI. Return to College Pilot Program

Student Mentorship | Tutoring (K-8) Pilot Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offset education disruption caused by the pandemic • Improve academic skills and student retention • Provide teacher assistance and one-on-one tutoring in math and reading • Focus on grades 3 and 5 • Increase student interaction with caring adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with an experienced organization to provide tutoring in high poverty K-8 schools • Inclusion teachers will ensure Cherokee students receive maximum attention • Impact evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Services will manage contract and designate schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential grant funding using evidence based data from pilot program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve drop out rates and graduation levels • Improve math and reading scores • Improve employment opportunities • Improve post secondary education and opportunities

What is our estimated budget?

60,000 X 20 schools X 3 years = \$3,600,000

Student Mentorship | Academic Enrichment (Positive Tomorrow 9-12)

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement one-on-one tutoring enrichment for high school students • Tutoring two times per week in 10 schools • Prepare students for post secondary education and training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with experienced organization • Impact Evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Services will manage the contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential grant funding using evidence based data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve drop out rates and graduation levels • Improve math and reading scores • Improve employment opportunities • Improve post secondary education and employment opportunities

What is our estimated budget?
 150 X 1,000 students (10 schools) X 3 years = \$4,500,000

Student Mentorship | College Outreach to Cherokee Scholarship Recipients

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with and mentor CN scholarship recipients • Two university pilot program • Suggested locations NSU and OSU • These positions will supplement the tribal studies and focus on scholarship recipients and address resource needs and mentoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with experienced organization for implementation • Increase the number of “touches” with recipients • Connect students to CN and employment opportunities through monthly “Chief Chat” via zoom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Services will manage program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential grant opportunities using evidence based data, specifically comparing graduation and CN employment rates with students at other universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase # of Cherokee college graduates • Connect students with the CN employment opportunities • Increase % of Cherokee college graduates that return to work for the tribe
<p>What is our estimated budget? \$75,000 X 2 Counselors X 3 year = \$450,000</p>				

Student Mentorship | Native American Support Center at Northeastern State University

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support approximately 400 students, 80% Cherokee, at NSU Current impact 95% college retention rate, GPA increase from 2.9 to 3.1 average, and increase in credit hour completion Program is being discontinued due to lack of funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with experienced organization for implementation Connect students with peer mentoring Offer academic tutoring Organization will host community, cultural, and academic workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Services will manage program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential grant opportunities using evidence based data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase # of Cherokee college graduates Increase supportive services on college campuses Connect students with the CN employment opportunities Increase % of Cherokee college graduates that return to work for the tribe

What is our estimated budget?
 \$350,000 x 3 year = \$1,050,000

Student Mentorship | Return to College Pilot Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunity for students to return to college by financially assisting with past due amounts creating a barrier for college enrollment • Prioritize families in poverty and single mothers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with colleges regarding student payments • Impact evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentorship to guide students through academic career using volunteers, virtual included • Education Services will manage this program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot initiative to determine feasibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase scholarship recipient college graduation • Improve employment opportunities and household income • Reduce families in poverty

What is our estimated budget?

250 students @ \$5,000 each = \$1,250,000 per year X 3 years = \$3,750,000

Student Mentorship | Leader In Me

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on Stephen Covey, curriculum incorporates leadership and success habits in daily life • Student learn how to manage priorities, focus on goals, and be a positive influence at school • A whole school improvement process based on the idea that everyone can be a leader • Students find their voice in the classroom and through taking leadership roles in the school • Evidence-based approach empowers students with the leadership and life-skills they need to thrive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Services will manage this program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHS support, including teachers and administrators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One time costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train SHS staff • Increased graduation rates • Increased community participation • Improved employment opportunities

What is our estimated budget?
\$200,000 one-time fee

Student Mentorship | Project Venture

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This program is focused on positive youth development, adventure, experiential learning program designed for middle school and high school aged youth. The focus is Positive Youth Development, based on traditional wisdom and values common to Indigenous people across North America. Includes in school and out of school programming, outdoor adventures to reconnect Indigenous youth with the Natural World, and substance misuse prevention. It also includes a trip to the National Indian Youth Camp in New Mexico (pending COVID-19) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with experienced organization to provide Project Venture in 20 schools with high percentage of youth poverty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education will maintain contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New grant funds after proven successful in new schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of Cherokee students seeking higher education Increase high school graduation rate Increase career and experiential opportunities development programs Increase cultural awareness among Native youth, thus increasing number of students coming back to work for Cherokee Nation
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>What is our estimated budget? \$1,500,000 X 3 year = \$4,500,000</p> </div>				

Student Mentorship|Foundations in Personal Finance

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundations in Personal Finance is a financial literacy curriculum for middle and high school produced by Ramsey Solutions. Provides a comprehensive understanding of managing personal finances Builds a solid foundation for a lifetime of responsible money management Equips students with money habits that change lives forever 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with experienced organization to provide digital curriculum and teacher training for middle and high school students located within Cherokee Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School support Ramsey Solutions works directly with each school to implement project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New grant funds after proven successful in schools Corporate sponsorships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase financial literacy among high school students Increase student capacity on budgeting Increase in student knowledge Decrease in borrowing for higher education Increase savings rates among students

What is our estimated budget?
 111 schools X \$5,000= \$555,000
 One time fee

Mental Health

- I. Social Workers In Schools
- II. Student Assistance Program for Training Program Participants

Mental Health | School counselors and Social Workers Pilot Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase access to resources, case management, education and counseling for low-income students and families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with experienced organization to provide services in schools Impact evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with schools Education Services will manage the contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential grant opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved school performance Connect families with resources Improve academic performance Increase # of Cherokee student graduates Decrease risks of truancy, overaggressive behaviors, and substance misuse Reduced social service, including health, costs
<p>What is our estimated budget?</p> <p>\$80,000 per social worker X 3 schools X 3 years = \$720,000</p>				

Mental Health | Student Assistance Program for Training Program Participants

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EAP support to Career Services trainees and scholarship recipients Suite of services includes short-term counseling, life/career coaching, legal and financial support, work/life resource and referral assistance and online tools through the Student Assistance website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract with professional EAP program offering student assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career Services will manage program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant opportunities using evidence based data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase # of training program graduates Improve employment opportunities and increase household income Increase # of citizens receiving mental health services (early treatment is proven to have better outcomes) Increase resources for training participants

What is our estimated budget?
 \$190,000 X 3 years = \$570,000

Cash Transfers

I. Cash Transfers to Eligible Employees (Pilot)

Cash Transfers | Employee Cash Transfer Pilot Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the MIT Living Wage Calculator, 1 Adult 0 children need \$14.11 for “a living wage”; 1 Adult 1 child needs \$28.92 Provide supplemental stipend to employees making less than \$15.00 an hour to provide living wages during the pandemic and its aftermath 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay stipend to 1,153 employees making less than \$15/hr to bring them to \$15/hr A study of how additional funds are being used would be interesting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Resources to target eligible employees Payroll to disburse bi-weekly stipend payments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited term program based on financial burden of pandemic and its aftermath 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to immediately lift Cherokee Nation employees out of defined poverty level Temporary reduction of social services costs

What is our estimated budget?
\$22,500,000 3 year period

Community Mentorship

- I. Bridges Out Of Poverty
- II. Community Education

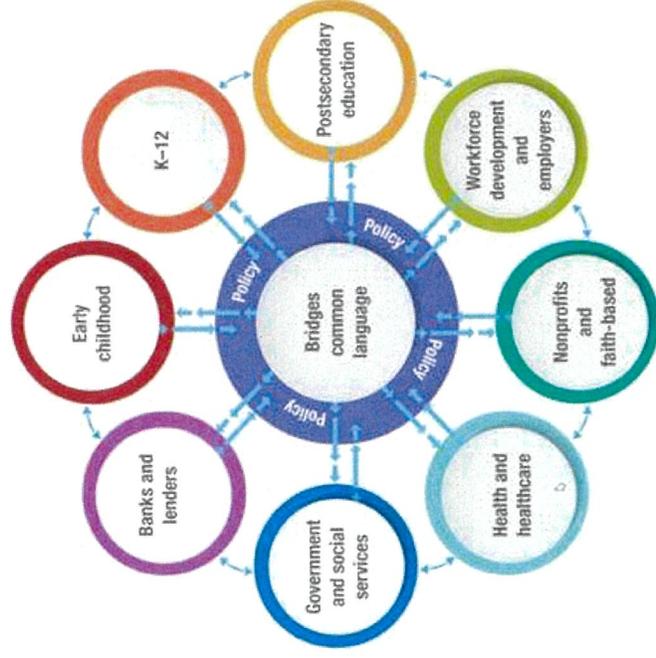
Community Mentorship | Bridges Out Of Poverty Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
Evidence-based program changing poverty mindset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups of 12 throughout reservation, work through curriculum in facilitated monthly meeting for 20 weeks, meals and child tutoring provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing for 7 Community support Engage community organizations for tutoring, in addition to Cherokee elders for stipend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future forward mindset of participants Build Career Services training pipeline Improve employment opportunities and increase household income Increase resource access 288 families served per year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create awareness among service providers, both CN employees and community organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing poverty training CN employees and organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with HACN, Career Services, Human Services, Education Services, One Fire 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create support groups 				

What is our estimated budget?
 \$1,500,000 X 3 year= \$4,500,0000

Bridges Out of Poverty – Results Driven

Program: Muskogee Return on Investment



- Muskogee Graduates' Household Outcomes
- 75% are now self-sufficient (meaning off all social services)
 - 81% have furthered their education
 - 85% have increased their household income
 - 88% have decreased their debt
 - 76% have opened a bank account
 - 92% have an increased level of hope

Community Mentorship | Community Education

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting Poverty Simulations for CN staff and community organizations to provide insight into the difficulties of poverty • Simulation participants will be confronted with a series of challenges that mimic the complex obstacles that many Cherokee citizens navigate daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract with experienced organization to manage a simulation and train CN staff to manage simulations in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building space to perform Poverty Simulations throughout the Cherokee Nation Reservation • Support of communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current staff will be trained to conduct simulations as needed in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase employee and community empathy for families living in poverty • Enhance workplace culture at CN

What is our estimated budget?

\$8,000 X 3 years = \$24,000

Access to Capital

- I. Home Based Business Loans
- II. Childcare Center Loans

Loan Assistance Programs | Home Based Business Loan and Coaching

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost financing to start and expand homebased businesses to increase household income • Examples: handmade products, bakeries, trainers, garden items, woodworking, art, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create specialized homebased business program with financial and technical assistance • Impact evaluation system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CNEDTA will manage portfolio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revolving loan fund or limited term program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased community based jobs • Increase household income

What is our estimated budget?
\$500,000 3 Year Total

Loan Assistance Programs | Private Child Care Center Loan Program

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable financing for private child care centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average \$30,000-\$50,000 loans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with Human Services to provide specialized training for in-home and small daycare owners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revolving or limited term program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open or expand approximately 20 childcare centers Increased household income Job creation

What is our estimated budget?
 \$1,000,000 3 year total

Multi-Use Property Purchase

What is it?	How will we achieve this?	What support do we need?	Sustainability	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Mathis Park Drive, Tahlequah, OK 74464 • The property is 195.74 acres in the heart of Tahlequah • On site- multiple homes or offices, school, gymnasium, livestock barn, sheds, pool, locket room facilities, park, event hall, commercial kitchen, undeveloped acreage with a live spring and ponds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop plan for multi-use facility • Rent to local organizations to host events, clubs, meetings, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with Cherokee Nation departments to utilize facilities • Partnerships with community organizations to utilize property 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One time purchase • Rental income stream 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job creation • Rental investment property for Cherokee Nation • Increase youth development programming by owning a multipurpose facility with access to several traditional opportunities • Increase childcare • Increase wages

What is our estimated budget?

\$6,200,000 property purchase
 \$786,474 for property renovations
 \$6,986,474 investment

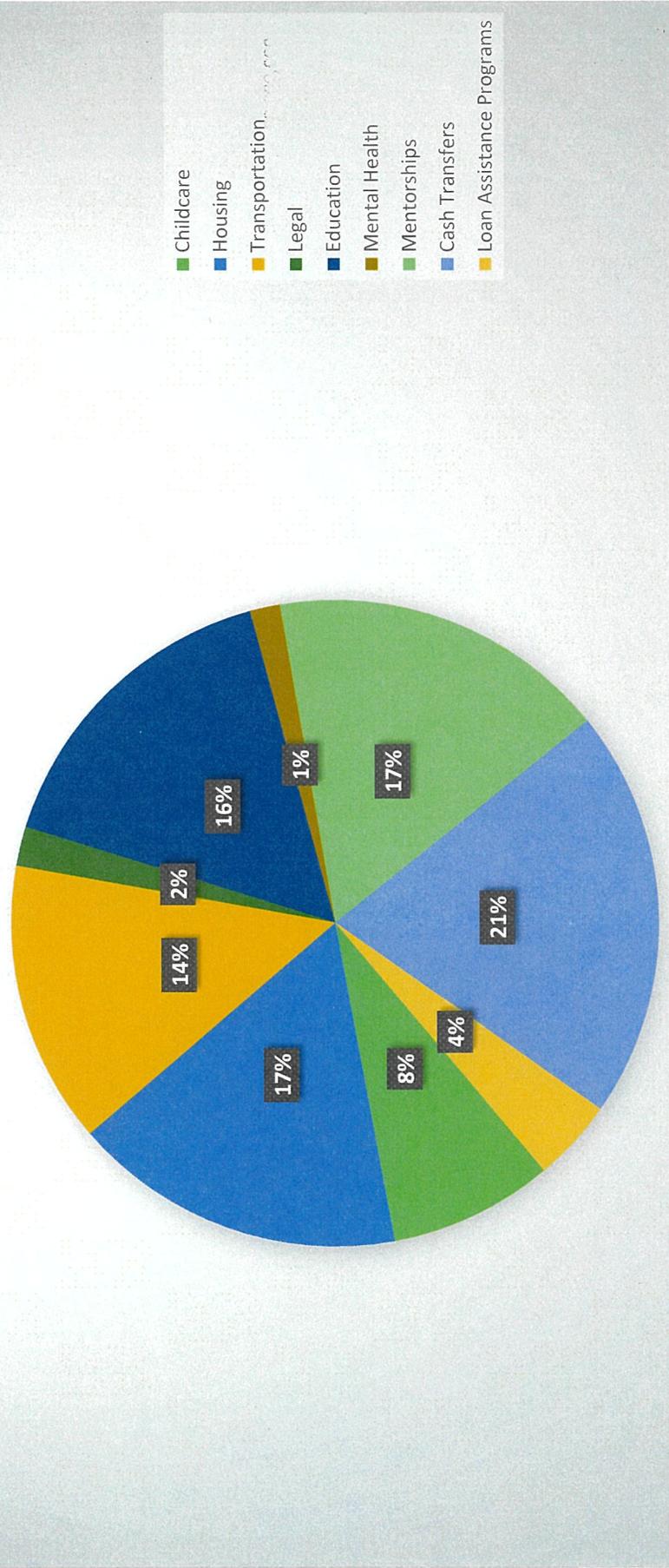
Strategy	Estimated Cost Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	TOTAL
Holiday and Summer Childcare is a partnership with 3 Boys and Girls Clubs to offer or extend services to provide safe, affordable childcare during school closures	900,000	900,000	900,000	2,700,000
Childcare Incentive to increase and retain childcare providers	598,000	598,000	598,000	1,794,000
Clothing Voucher 0-5 Ages to partially alleviate the financial burden of clothing for under resources children	375,000	375,000	375,000	1,125,000
Parents as teachers, family advocates, etc to increase childcare provides, increase household income, increase parent/child relationships and aid in fully staffing classrooms	75,000	75,000	75,000	225,000
Emergency Housing for individuals experiencing homelessness and needing safe, stable housing	10,000,000			10,000,000
Hope Houses (Transitional Housing) for individuals transitionning out of in-patient rehabilitation	640,000	520,000		1,160,000
RISE: Uniting Non-Profit Communities and providing technical assistance and financial support to community based organizations for food pantries, clothing pantries, etc.	1,000,000	500,000	500,000	2,000,000
Contract with mechanics to provide affordable vehicle repairs for CN training participants and Bridges Out of Poverty participants	250,000	250,000	250,000	750,000
Driving Out Of Poverty Pilot Program loan assistance program to help training program participants and Bridges Out of poverty participants access employment, school, etc.	666,666	666,666	666,666	2,000,000

Strategy	Estimated Cost Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	TOTAL
<u>Transportation PICK program</u> to offer after hour and weekend public transportation	1,500,000			1,500,000
<u>Legal Aid</u> services to provide free legal services to Career Services trainees and Bridges Out of Poverty Participants	290,000	290,000	290,000	870,000
<u>Fines and Fees</u> to assist in the financial barrier and increase employment opportunities for Career Services trainees and Bridges participants	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000
<u>Driver's License Assistance</u> program to improve employment and increase household income by decreasing transportation costs	150,000	150,000	150,000	450,000
<u>Tutoring K-8</u> offset education disruption and improve academic skills and student retention	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	3,600,000
<u>Tutoring 9-12 (Positive Tomorrow)</u> improve drop out rates and graduation levels and prepare high school students for post secondary education	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	4,500,000
<u>College Outreach</u> to Cherokee Students to connect with and mentor Cherokee Nation college students at two pilot Universities	150,000	150,000	150,000	450,000
<u>Native American Support Center</u> at NSU offer supportive services through an experienced organizations for Native American college students	350,000	350,000	350,000	1,050,000
<u>Return to College Pilot</u> provides an opportunity for students to return to college by financially assisting with past due account	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	3,750,000
<u>Leader In Me Leadership Program</u> will be implemented at Sequoyah High School. It is a program that teaches students how to manage priorities, focus on goals, and be a positive influence.	48,894	38,316	38,316	125,526
			45	

Strategy	Estimated Cost Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	TOTAL
<u>Project Venture</u> is a positive youth development program based on traditional wisdom and values. It also focused on substance misuse prevention	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	4,500,000
<u>Foundations in Personal Finance</u> is a financial curriculum geared toward teaching students how to be financially responsible. It has been taught to over 5 million students in the U.S.	550,000			550,000
<u>School counselors/Social Workers</u> in Schools to increase access to resources, case management, and counseling for low income families and students	240,000	240,000	240,000	720,000
<u>Student Assistance Program (EAP type service)</u> for Career Service trainees and scholarship recipients to provide a suite of services that includes short term counseling, life/career coaching, legal and financial support	190,000	190,000	190,000	570,000
<u>Employee Cash Transfers</u> to provide a supplemental stipend to employees making less than \$15 an hour to provide living wages during the pandemic and aftermath	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	22,500,000
<u>Bridges Out Of Poverty</u> is an evidence-based program changing the poverty mindset. It will be offered throughout the reservation and serve 288 families per year	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	4,500,000
<u>Community Education/ Poverty Simulation Training</u> to community organizations to provide insight on the difficulties of living in poverty	8,000	8,000	8,000	24,000
			46	

Strategy	Estimated Cost Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	TOTAL
<u>Home Based Business Loan Program</u> is a low cost financing option to start a home business such as: handmade products, bakeries, trainers, garden, etc.	500,000			500,000
<u>Childcare Center Loan Program</u> affordable financing for private childcare centers	1,000,000			1,000,000
<u>Methodist Home Purchase for multipurpose use</u>	6,000,000			6,000,000
<u>Property Purchase Renovations</u>	786,474			786,474
				80,000,000 47

Anti Poverty Initiative



Future Recommendations

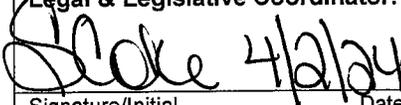
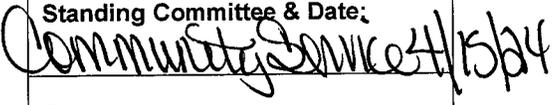
- I. Searchable program database for mobile and computer app – staff and citizens can input basic information, including problem identification, and potential programs will be retrieved for all possible assistance
- II. Consolidated Database System to track individual service provision, excluding health, and progress on self-sufficiency spectrum
- III. Single point, single application (at least general information) , electronically entered for global access
- IV. Cross Train Service Programs, excluding health, for appropriate referrals
- V. Examine Casino policy to not hire felons
- VI. Prioritize dental and contract health to remove barriers to employment
- VII. Provide funding for fee simple probate to provide needed housing rehab
- VIII. Increase number of and income for relative childcare providers
- IX. Increase childcare income eligibility guidelines

“It’s a powerful thing to know that
you are empowering someone to lift
themselves out of poverty.”

Jessica Jackley

Cherokee Nation Act/Resolution Proposal Form

Act Resolution

<u>ADMINISTRATIVE CLEARANCE</u>	
Dept/Program:	
Signature/Initial	Date
Executive Director:	
Signature/Initial	Date
Treasurer (Required: Grants/Contracts/Budgets):	
Signature/Initial	Date
Government Relations:	
Signature/Initial	Date
Administration Approval:	
	4/2/24
Signature/Initial	Date
<u>LEGISLATIVE CLEARANCE:</u>	
Legal & Legislative Coordinator:	
	4/2/24
Signature/Initial	Date
Standing Committee & Date:	
	4/15/24
Chairperson:	
	

TITLE:

A RESOLUTION RESPONDING TO LEGISLATIVE ACT 01-22; RELATED TO HOMELESSNESS

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Chuck Hoskin Jr.

RESOLUTION PRESENTER: T Montgomery

Daryl Legg, Candessa Tehee, Lisa Hall, EO Smith,

COUNCIL SPONSOR: _____

NARRATIVE:

The Council of the Cherokee Nation authorizes a contribution to the city of Tahlequah in partnership with the construction of a crisis shelter on the Cherokee Nation Reservation