

ᏍᏏᏗᏗᏗᏗᏗᏗᏗ ᏗᏗᏗᏗ ᏗᏗᏗᏗ

# RISING TOGETHER RISING TOGETHER



Building on the Foundations of  
Homes, Health and Hope

Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report to the Cherokee People

ᎠᎩᎩ

# Osiyo!

In the past year, the Cherokee Nation has accomplished many significant milestones, such as the partnership with Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences to build the first tribally affiliated medical school on tribal land in the country. The future school will be housed on the W.W. Hastings Campus, along with our new state-of-the-art health facility, a 469,000-square-foot health center that was built through a joint venture program with Indian Health Service. It will be the largest, most progressive health center in Indian Country.

In fiscal year 2018, the tribe also achieved two first-ever milestones with the construction of a solar canopy car charging station, which is the first built by a tribe in Oklahoma, as well as being the first tribal nation to designate a portion of tribal land to serve as a conservation and mitigation area. Both these achievements reaffirm Cherokee Nation’s commitment to being good stewards of our natural resources.

Other accomplishments are smaller in nature but equally as important to our citizenry, like publishing our own history book, titled “Cherokee Nation: A History of Survival, Self-Determination and Identity.”

We are proud of every increased opportunity we have put in place for our citizens to thrive. We have

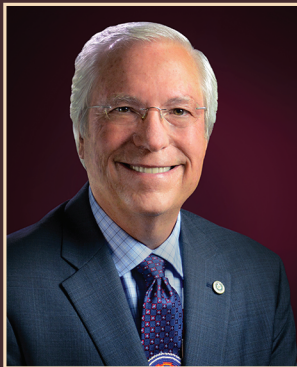
once again increased academic funding for higher education. We continue to diversify and expand our business interests and create good, quality jobs. We have built new homes for Cherokee families and expanded our Cherokee language revitalization efforts, developing new speakers across multiple generations.

Homes, health and hope have been the focus of this administration for the past eight years. Our tribal government has grown stronger, our sovereign rights and self-determination have been exercised, and our citizens, as well as all of northeast Oklahoma, have been positively impacted.

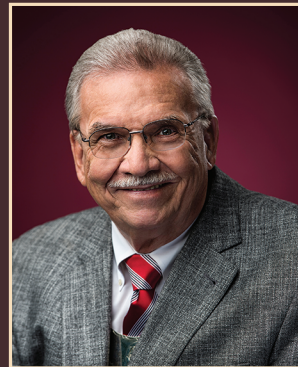
Every decision we made has been with the purpose of making the Cherokee Nation stronger and ensuring our people remain healthy and hopeful. Good governance means we are able to provide the critical services and programs our people need and deserve.

We have laid a strong foundation for success, not just in the past year, but during this administration’s tenure. It has been our honor to work for the Cherokee people, and we are proud to make the communities within the 14 counties of the Cherokee Nation an exceptional place to live and raise a family.

Please carefully review the following pages to get a better idea of all that we have accomplished.



Bill John Baker  
Principal Chief



S. Joe Crittenden  
Deputy Principal Chief

ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ

## Executive Branch

The executive branch of the Cherokee Nation is charged with executing the laws of the Cherokee Nation, establishing tribal policy and delegating authority as necessary for day-to-day operations of all programs and enterprises administered by the Cherokee Nation tribal government. These leaders include the Principal Chief, Deputy Principal Chief and six cabinet positions appointed by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Tribal Council.



(L to R) Attorney General Todd Hembree, Secretary of Natural Resources Sara Hill, Secretary of State Chuck Hoskin Jr., Principal Chief Bill John Baker, Deputy Principal Chief S. Joe Crittenden, Chief of Staff Chuck Hoskin, Treasurer Lacey Horn and Marshal Shannon Buhl.

ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ

## Legislative Branch

The legislative branch consists of a 17-member Tribal Council. The council is elected by popular vote to four-year terms. There are 15 councilors elected to represent the districts within the Cherokee Nation jurisdictional boundaries and two councilors elected to represent citizens who live outside the boundaries. The Tribal Council establishes laws necessary and proper for the good of the Cherokee Nation and conducts other business to further the interests of the Cherokee Nation and its citizens. A speaker elected by other council members presides over the council.



**L to R seated:** Dist. 6: Bryan Warner, Dist. 4: Mike Dobbins, Dist. 13: Buel Anglen, Dist. 3: David Walkingstick, Dist. 14: Keith Austin, Dist. 8: Shawn Crittenden, Dist. 9: Mike Shambaugh.

**L to R standing:** Dist. 1: Rex Jordan, Dist. 10: Harley Buzzard, At Large: Mary Baker Shaw, At Large: Wanda Hatfield, Dist. 7: Frankie Hargis, Dist. 2: Speaker Joe Byrd, Dist. 11: Deputy Speaker Victoria Vazquez, Dist. 15: Janees Taylor, Dist. 12: Dick Lay, Dist. 5: E.O. Smith.

ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ ᠠᠨᠠᠭᠠᠨᠠᠨᠠᠨ

## Judicial Branch

The judicial branch includes the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court and District Court. The Supreme Court consists of five justices who are Cherokee Nation citizens and licensed attorneys nominated by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the Tribal Council. The justices serve staggered 10-year terms. The district court serves citizens by providing a forum for general jurisdiction over disputes arising under the laws and constitution of Cherokee Nation. District court judges are selected in the same manner as the justices and serve four-year terms.



**L to R:** Justice Lynn Burris, Justice John C. Garrett, Chief Justice James G. Wilcoxon, Justice Mark L. Dobbins and Justice Lee Paden.



## About Cherokee Nation

The Cherokee Nation is a sovereign tribal government. Upon settling in Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma) after the Indian Removal Act, the Cherokee people established a new government in what is now the city of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. A constitution was adopted on September 6, 1839, 68 years prior to Oklahoma's statehood.

Today, the Cherokee Nation is the largest tribe in the United States with more than 370,000 citizens worldwide. More than 141,000 Cherokee Nation citizens reside within the 14-county tribal

jurisdictional area that covers most of northeastern Oklahoma.

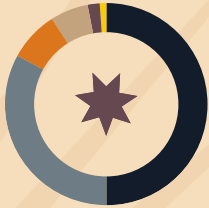
Services provided include health and human services, education, employment, housing, economic and infrastructure development, environmental protection and more.

With approximately 11,000 employees, Cherokee Nation and its subsidiaries are one of the largest employers in northeastern Oklahoma. The tribe had a more than \$2.16 billion economic impact on the Oklahoma economy in fiscal year 2018.

ᎠᏍ ᎠᏍᏍ ᎠᏍᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍ

## Where the Money Comes From

FY2018 Sources

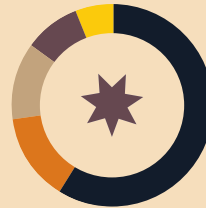


- ★ Operating Grants and Contributions : 50%
- ★ Charges for Services and Other : 33%
- ★ Dividends : 8%
- ★ Taxes : 6%
- ★ Unrestricted Grants and Donations : 2%
- ★ Investment Earnings : 1%

ᎠᏍ ᎠᏍᏍ ᎠᏍᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍᎠᏍ

## Where the Money Goes

FY2018 Uses



- ★ Health Services : 59%
- ★ Community Services : 14%
- ★ Education Services : 12%
- ★ Human Services : 9%
- ★ Tribal Government : 6%

# Capital projects in FY2018



## Cherokee Nation outpatient health center

Cherokee Nation Health Services, the largest tribal health system in the U.S., was awarded an Indian Health Service (IHS) Joint Venture Construction project to build a 469,000-square-foot health care facility in Tahlequah. As of FY2018, we had invested \$73.7 million into the \$200 million construction project.

## Cherokee Nation facilities improvements

Focusing on providing quality care for Cherokees, Cherokee Nation invested \$1.7 million in FY2018 into numerous upgrades to tribal facilities including the W.W. Keeler Tribal Complex.





## History of investing

The Cherokee Nation has made a concerted effort in recent years to provide better housing and housing services to its citizens. After the reestablishment of the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation in 2012, the tribe began building new homes for its citizens through the HACN's New Home Construction Program. Since the completion of the first homes in August 2012, the program has built about 700 new homes for Cherokee families.

The tribe also increased the amount families received through Commerce Services' Mortgage Assistance Program in 2013. Families now receive \$15,000 to \$20,000 for a down payment and closing costs, easing the burden of purchasing a new home. Since the program began, more than 1,800 families have been helped with the purchase of a home.

The tribe increased its housing services in 2016

when it was one of 26 tribes to receive funding to provide housing to veterans in need from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Since implementing the service in 2016, the tribe has served 41 veterans with the grant funding.

In addition to the New Home Construction Program, Mortgage Assistance Program and Veteran Housing Assistance Program, the tribe also provides housing rehabilitation services, rental assistance programs and more.

With a foundation of providing quality housing and housing services to its citizens in place, the tribe continues to survey the housing needs of its people and develop programs that serve its citizens better, including future housing additions built for Cherokee elders.



### 11 families receive new homes in Vinita

Eleven Cherokee families received the keys to their new homes in Vinita in May 2018 as part of the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation’s New Home Construction Program. At the end of fiscal year 2018, the HACN had built 688 new homes through the program.

### New law benefits schools, tribal housing authorities

A bill, authored by two Cherokee Nation citizens and former state legislators and supported by the Cherokee Nation, was signed into law June 2018 allowing school districts in Oklahoma to transfer surplus land to tribal housing authorities. Another benefit for the schools in transferring land is federal impact aid, which means school districts receive \$2,800 per year for every tribal student living in a HACN-built home within their school district.



## By the numbers

**\$1.9M**

Given to 102 Cherokee families for down payment and closing costs through the tribe’s Mortgage Assistance Program

**6,486**

Families received housing assistance through the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation

**604**

Wells and septic systems installed or repaired by the tribe’s Community Services



## History of investing

For decades, the Cherokee Nation has made considerable investments in health care, including the infusion of hundreds of millions of dollars in the construction of new health facilities over the past eight years.

Cherokee Nation Health Services received an increase in the dividend from Cherokee Nation Businesses for health care in 2012 and a \$100 million investment from casino profits that provided funds for the construction of new health centers in Ochelata and Jay as well as expansions of health centers in Sallisaw and Stilwell.

In 2017, the tribe broke ground on a 469,000-square-foot outpatient health facility at W.W. Hastings campus. The new health center will house 240 exam rooms and an ambulatory surgery center with five surgical suites, more health specialists and

expanded areas for current services provided.

In addition to the investment in new health centers and expansions, the tribe has been active in combatting substance abuse, including the funding and construction of the tribe's \$5 million Jack Brown Treatment Center, a residential treatment center that serves clients from 13 to 18 years of age who are experiencing serious substance abuse issues.

Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health has implemented strategies to reverse the abuse of opioids, including prevention and education programs.

The Cherokee Nation throughout history has been a progressive nation, on the forefront in many areas, including health care. The tribe's recent investments and future projects will continue that trend and improve health care for Cherokees for generations.





### Tribe provides training in mental health first aid

Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health is using federal grants to train community law enforcement, youth workers and health officials to effectively handle mental illness. Each of the five courses, funded through a federal grant and the Indian Health Service, teaches specific risk factors and warning signs of mental illness and how they relate to an emergency situation. Only about 5,000 instructors nationwide are certified to teach mental health first aid, including six from the tribe.

### Cherokee Nation supplies Narcan to first responders

Cherokee Nation supplied hundreds of first responders in northeastern Oklahoma with free boxes of Narcan, a spray that reverses opioid drug overdoses. Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health used a \$1 million federal grant as part of the First Responder Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act to supply Narcan. The four-year grant is also helping the tribe provide training to emergency responders on how to administer Narcan.



## By the numbers

1.3M

Patient visits at W.W. Hastings Hospital and the tribe's nine health centers

2.4M

Prescriptions filled by W.W. Hastings Hospital and the tribe's nine health center pharmacies

\$4.7M

Provided by the Cherokee Nation WIC Program in food vouchers to clients



## History of investing

The Cherokee Nation's commitment to education was established well before removal to Indian Territory and continued when the tribe built the Cherokee male and female seminaries after removal. Today, the Cherokee Nation's commitment to education is stronger than ever.

In the past eight years, the Cherokee Nation has nearly doubled its annual scholarship funding from \$8.5 million to more than \$15 million. During that time, Cherokee Nation's higher education programs awarded nearly 29,000 scholarships. Since 2012, the Cherokee Nation has also provided nearly 2,000 high school juniors and seniors with concurrent enrollment scholarships totaling almost \$2 million, helping these students get a head start on their college careers.

In 2013, Principal Chief Bill John Baker signed an agreement with the state of Oklahoma to expand

tribal car tag sales to all 77 Oklahoma counties. The Cherokee Nation allocates 38 percent of tribal car tag revenue to education each year. Fiscal year 2018 marked the seventh consecutive year the tribe gave a record amount of unrestricted funds to school districts.

In March 2018, Chief Baker proposed legislation to give certified teachers at Sequoyah High School and the Cherokee Immersion Charter School an immediate pay raise. The Tribal Council approved the legislation and 45 certified teachers received an immediate \$5,000 lump sum payment. When the 2018-19 school year began, the tribe added \$5,000 to certified teachers' base pay.

As the Cherokee Nation continues to grow, education and opportunities for tribal citizens remain a strategic priority.



### \$5.4M given to school districts in northeast Oklahoma

The Cherokee Nation contributed more than \$5.4 million to 108 school districts during the tribe’s 2018 Public School Appreciation Day. The funds are from the sale of tribal car tags. School districts have total discretion on how to use the funding. In recent years, it’s been used for teacher salaries, operations, technology and school programs. Since 2002, the tribe has awarded school districts in northeastern Oklahoma \$50.5 million in education contributions.

### Cherokee Nation helps educators with STEM training

More than 100 teachers from across northeast Oklahoma participated in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math training during Cherokee Nation’s annual Teachers of Successful Students conference. The two-day training included teacher workshops on everything from reading strategies and using archery to finding STEM activities on a shoestring budget. The tribe also awarded \$10,000 total in Creative Teaching Grants to 10 teachers for STEM classroom projects.



## By the numbers

\$15.6M

Distributed in higher education scholarships by the tribe

893

Students attended Cherokee Nation Head Start centers

25,804

Students served by the Cherokee Nation Johnson O’Malley Program

## History of investing

While many community organizations, first responder agencies and governing municipalities have faced tightened budgets in recent years, the Cherokee Nation has proudly stepped up to be a contributing partner to these northeast Oklahoma entities.

Cherokee Nation's charitable contributions budget has grown from just over \$500,000 in fiscal year 2011 to more than \$1.6 million annually. Hundreds of nonprofit organizations receive vital support each year from the tribe, including food pantries, shelters, court advocates and churches.

The tribe also provides more than 130 volunteer fire departments with nearly half a million dollars annually to help volunteer firefighters purchase the necessary life-saving equipment for their communities. Many of these departments rely on donations and fundraisers to carry out their mission.

The tribe continues to connect smaller municipalities, police departments, fire departments and hard-working nonprofit organizations with surplus Cherokee Nation vehicles that can find new life by filling transportation needs among these groups.

In the past eight years, the tribe has also invested millions of dollars into infrastructure of northeast Oklahoma, including the construction and repair of roads and bridges as well as new and improved waterlines, water towers and water treatment facilities.

The Cherokee Nation has long understood that working with local entities and investing in northeast Oklahoma infrastructure is a win for everyone. The impact of the tribe's dollar is so much stronger because of the community partners within our tribal jurisdiction.



### Tribe partners on new water treatment plant in Fort Gibson

Cherokee Nation partnered with the USDA, Muskogee County officials and Fort Gibson municipal entities to develop the city’s new water treatment plant, which has up to twice the capacity of the previous facility and will provide service to nearly 5,000 residents, including 500 Native American homes. The tribe contributed \$928,800 in Indian Health Service funds along with \$50,000 from Cherokee Nation funds for engineering for the more than \$8 million project.

### Cherokee Nation dedicates new \$2.4M road project

Cherokee Nation and Sequoyah County officials dedicated a newly paved 8-mile stretch of Moonshine Road in rural Sequoyah County in June 2018. The \$2.4 million project included an asphalt overlay covering 8.49 miles of road, along with the placement of new rumble striping, guardrails and the installation of new signs. Cherokee Nation used federal funds to cover the project cost. In fiscal year 2018, the tribe built or repaired 56.56 total miles of roads and bridges.



## By the numbers

**\$925K**

Given to 417 nonprofit organizations

**329**

Veterans and widows of veterans, on average, served by the Cherokee Nation Veterans Center per month

**\$937K**

Given to 229 emergency first responder entities



## History of investing

As part of the oath of office, Cherokee Nation elected and appointed leaders affirm to promote the culture, heritage and traditions of the tribe. The fulfillment of this commitment is evidenced by the tribe's recent language and cultural investments. In 2014, the tribe created the Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program. It teaches participants to become conversationally proficient Cherokee speakers in order to create more Cherokee teachers.

The tribe was able to purchase Sequoyah's Cabin in 2016. Sequoyah is a larger than life figure in Cherokee history as the creator of the Cherokee syllabary. With ownership of his home near Sallisaw, the tribe can ensure that his and the tribe's history will continued to be shared with the thousands of visitors who travel to view the Sequoyah's Cabin Museum.

The Cherokee Nation also has published three books in recent years that promote the language, culture and traditions of the Cherokee people. In 2015, the tribe published the New Testament red letter edition of the Bible in the Cherokee syllabary for the first time. "Cherokee National Treasures: In Their Own Words" was released in 2017, highlighting Cherokee National Treasure honorees and giving readers an exclusive opportunity to get to know each one through their own stories. In 2018, the tribe's most recently published book tells the tribe's story from pre-contact through modern history.

The development of programs and historical sites as well as the production of language, cultural and historical books ensure the Cherokee Nation's history, culture and language will continue to thrive.

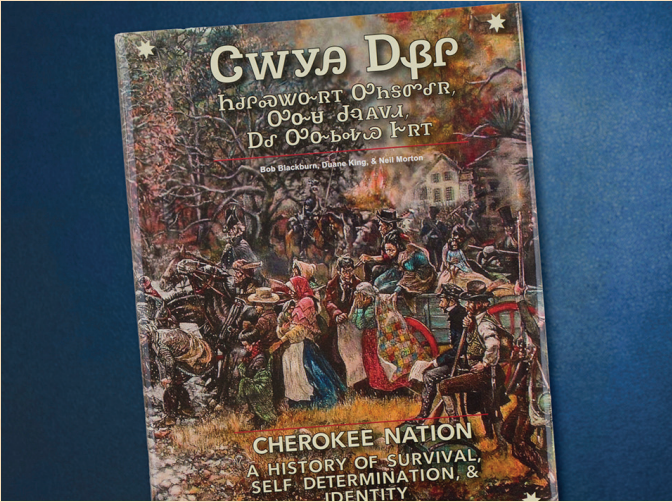


### New language program helps Immersion graduates

The Cherokee Nation launched a pilot program in January 2018 to ensure students who learned to speak Cherokee at the tribe's Cherokee Immersion Charter School continue to use the language as they enter high school. Through the tribe's new 14th Generation Master Apprentice Program, select graduates of the Cherokee Language Master Apprentice Program will provide language lessons to Sequoyah High School students who graduated from the immersion school.

### Tribes publishes new history book

In August 2018, the Cherokee Nation released its newest published book "Cherokee Nation: A History of Survival, Self Determination and Identity." The book takes readers through the challenges and opportunities that have shaped the largest tribal nation in the U.S. Spanning more than four centuries, the narrative emphasizes individual leadership, the struggle for internal unity, and the fight against the forces that attempted to destroy the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation.



## By the numbers

848

Students participated in the annual Cherokee Language Bowl and Cherokee Challenge Bowl hosted by Education Services

9,000

Total miles traveled by nine Remember the Removal cyclists commemorating the Trail of Tears in 2018

100

Protectors, promoters and preservers of Cherokee culture, language named Cherokee National Treasure since 1989



## History of investing

Cherokee Nation continues to develop and expand programs that provide critical services to families, elders and veterans, such as LIHEAP, food distribution, burial assistance, child support services, veteran services, elder services and more. The tribe has also developed progressive employee leave policies, providing stability to Cherokee families.

In 2015, the Cherokee Nation announced an eight-week paid maternity leave policy for tribal employees. The tribe also implemented a foster care leave policy in 2017 for Cherokee Nation employees who serve as foster care families. The policy was the first of its kind in Indian Country and the state of Oklahoma.

Following the opening of the \$2 million, 8,700-square-foot Cherokee Nation Veterans Center in 2014, the tribe coordinated the first-ever Cherokee

Nation Warrior Flight, a weekend trip to Washington, D.C. Since the inaugural flight, the tribe has taken about 40 military veterans to the nation's capital to see historic monuments and sites. The Cherokee Nation Veterans Center also implemented a variety of new programs that allow veterans access to a quarterly food pantry and a variety of monthly activities in Tahlequah and the 14 counties.

Providing a hand up instead of a hand out to people in need has long been a Cherokee tradition as well as honoring elders and warriors, and the tribe is continuing those traditions today through programs and services that honor elders and military veterans and provide stability to Cherokee Nation families and citizens through family-centric programs and services.





### Cherokee Nation Food Distribution sets record

The Cherokee Nation Food Distribution Program set a new record after receiving their first USDA Management Evaluation with no adverse findings. Records for fiscal year 2017 were examined as more than 10 areas of management and daily operations were reviewed. In fiscal year 2018, the tribe’s Food Distribution program served 60,859 households, from a total of seven distribution centers throughout the tribe’s 14-county jurisdiction.

### Angel Project provides Christmas gifts

The annual Cherokee Nation Angel Project provides Christmas gifts for Cherokee children across the tribe’s 14-county jurisdiction. The project also provides families with items like bedding and winter clothing. More than 1,900 children received gifts through the Angel Project in fiscal year 2018. The program kicks off the week of Thanksgiving each year as individuals select ornaments representing Cherokee children off the Christmas tree to sponsor.



## By the numbers

130K

Individuals served by the tribe’s seven food distribution center locations

4,544

Children provided clothing through the School Clothing Assistance Program

\$4.6M

Allocated to direct client assistance for youth, elders and families



## History of investing

Cherokee Nation is leading the charge in economic development with a \$2.16 billion economic impact in Oklahoma in FY2018.

By partnering with industry leaders like Macy's in 2015, Ingredion in 2017 and Sofidel in 2018, the Cherokee Nation is bringing industry and jobs to the area like never before. Through partnerships like these, Cherokee communities are seeing an increase in tax base, well-paying jobs and growth.

Through projects in the Jay Industrial Park, the tribe not only attracted new industry, but improved infrastructure for the city of Jay. The park, home of AST Storage, Cherokee Nation Career Services offices and the Cherokee Nation Food Distribution Center, is still an area of growth for the community and is benefitting both Cherokees and non-Cherokees alike.

In FY2018, Cherokee Nation Career Services hosted nearly 25 job fairs, connecting Cherokee Nation citizens with jobs in every area from clerical to hospitality to industrial and trade work.

Cherokee Nation's Small Business Assistance Center also continued its support of the economic and job growth with more than \$13 million in small business loans distributed to nearly 300 small businesses, creating more than 1,000 jobs through local small businesses.

The tribe's commitment to growing the economy of Oklahoma and providing well-paying jobs through the tribe or other partners is evident across northeast Oklahoma and has provided a great foundation for future growth.



### Recruitment fairs connect Cherokees to job opportunities

Cherokee Nation Career Services partnered with other tribal services and programs, Cherokee Nation Entertainment and other outside companies and corporations to host 23 recruitment fairs in fiscal year 2018. Corporations the tribe has partnered with to help Cherokees find employment opportunities include Macy’s in Owasso, Amazon in Tulsa, Sofidel in Inola, AST Storage in Jay, SP Foundry in South Coffeyville, Schwan’s in Stilwell and more.

### Employment program provides experience for youth

The Cherokee Nation Summer Youth Employment Program placed more than 600 Native youth in jobs in summer 2018, helping them gain valuable work experience and income. The program, administered by the tribe’s Career Services department, helped youth, ages 16 to 24, work 40 hours a week for six weeks. Each youth earns \$7.25 per hour for a total potential income of \$1,740 each, and a collective total of more than \$1 million in summer wages.



## By the numbers

**\$2.08M**

Awarded in business loans to 36 businesses, creating 219 jobs

**2,473**

Native Americans assisted with vocational training through Career Services

**218%**

Increase in number of Cherokee Nation government employees over the last 20 years



## History of investing

The Cherokee Nation has taken bold steps in recent years to ensure the tribe's natural resources are safe and available to use not only now but for the next seven generations.

In 2015, Principal Chief Bill John Baker appointed Sara Hill as the tribe's first Secretary of Natural Resources, a cabinet position to oversee environmental programs and advise the Chief and Tribal Council on land, air and natural resources policies. Chief Baker also signed an executive order that aims to reduce carbon emissions of tribal operations by 25 percent by 2027.

Cherokee Nation continued its efforts to protect its natural resources by working with the state of Oklahoma for many years to ensure 10,000 tons of nuclear waste were removed from the former

Sequoyah Fuels Corporation site near Gore, leaving the area free of the radioactive waste for the first time in nearly 50 years.

In 2015, tribal and state leaders also entered into a hunting and fishing compact providing every Cherokee Nation citizen 18 to 65 years old in the state a free hunting and fishing license. The tribe also became the first in the country to create a fish and wildlife advocacy organization with the launch of the Cherokee Nation Fish and Wildlife Association. More recently, Cherokee Nation worked with state leaders to establish the Coordinating Council on Poultry Growth to evaluate the expansion of poultry production and its impact on rural communities and Cherokee citizens.



### Tribes builds first solar canopy car charging station

The Cherokee Nation celebrated the first solar canopy car charging station to be built by a tribe in Oklahoma in November 2017. The tribe’s charging station is located at the W.W. Keeler Tribal Complex. It is capable of charging up to eight electric vehicles and also provides about 58,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity to the tribal complex each year, equivalent to the amount of electricity needed to power three or more homes.

### Tribes establishes first conservation area

The tribe, working alongside the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is the first tribal nation to designate an area of tribal land for conservation and mitigation project. An executive order designated a portion of the tribe’s 800-acre park on Sallisaw Creek in Sequoyah County as an American Burying Beetle Conservation and Mitigation Area for the next 10 years. The National Cherokee Nation Park is already a natural habitat for the beetle.



## By the numbers

4,905

Packages of heirloom seeds distributed by the Seed Bank Program

197

Wildfires Cherokee Nation firefighters responded to within the tribe’s jurisdiction and at-large

62,243

Acres of tribal trust land owned by the Cherokee Nation at the end of FY2018



## Connecting with at-large citizens

With more than 230,000 Cherokee Nation citizens living outside the tribe's 14-county jurisdiction, the Cherokee Nation strives to provide resources and programs that keep at-large citizens connected to the tribe. One resource created is a website dedicated exclusively to providing at-large citizens with information on tribal and federal services.

The website, [www.cherokeesatlarge.org](http://www.cherokeesatlarge.org), features information on home loans, health services, education scholarships and more.

On the website, at-large citizens can subscribe to an email list for updates on community events and Cherokee Nation information. An interactive map displaying all the Indian Health Service facilities available to Native Americans is also featured.

The Cherokee Nation believes a tight knit community is essential to staying connected to the

tribe and fellow citizens. With that idea in mind, the Cherokee Nation has 24 official at-large organizations in 10 states and Washington, D.C. These satellite organizations are located in areas of the country where large numbers of Cherokee Nation citizens reside. The organizations meet regularly and routinely host history and cultural presentations. History and culture experts from Cherokee Nation Community and Cultural Outreach visit the at-large organizations to present on topics ranging from Cherokees in the Civil War to traditional basket weaving. Cherokee Nation administration and tribal departments also visit the at-large organizations annually to fellowship and update at-large citizens on the latest happenings in the tribe. To find the satellite organization nearest you, visit [www.cherokeesatlarge.org](http://www.cherokeesatlarge.org).

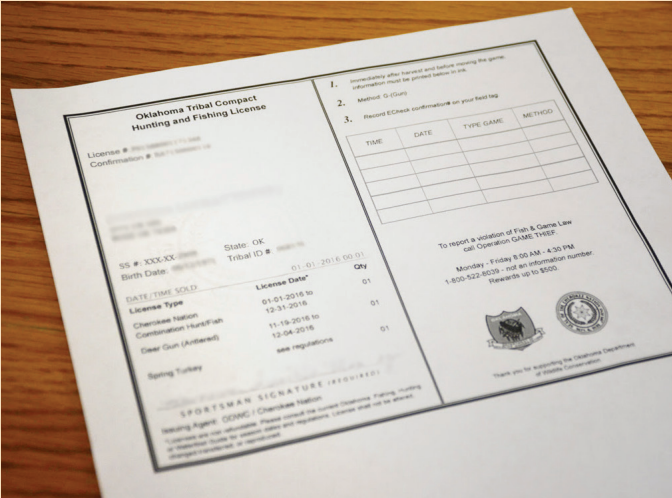


### Conference provides training for community organizations

Nearly 500 representatives of the 24 at-large and 88 in-jurisdiction Cherokee community organizations attended the Cherokee Nation’s 14th Annual Conference of Community Leaders. The two-day conference provides participants the opportunity to attend workshops led by experts in sustainability and culture. The tribe concludes the conference by honoring community organizations that do outstanding work and promote the culture.

### Hunting and fishing licenses sent to citizens statewide

The Cherokee Nation Fish and Wildlife Department distributed more than 114,000 hunting and fishing licenses to Cherokee Nation citizens, including at-large citizens living in Oklahoma, but outside the tribe’s 14-county jurisdiction. Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker and former Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin signed a compact in 2015 that expand hunting and fishing rights for Cherokee Nation citizens to all 77 Oklahoma counties.



# By the numbers

230,079

Cherokee Nation citizens living outside the tribe’s 14-county jurisdiction

4,319

New motor vehicle tags and renewals sold to at-large Cherokee Nation citizens in Oklahoma

\$3.1M

In scholarships distributed to at-large Cherokee students by Cherokee Nation Education Services



## Cherokee Nation Outpatient Health Center

When Cherokee Nation's new 469,000-square-foot, four-story outpatient health facility opens in fall 2019, it will be the largest health center operated by the Cherokee Nation and the largest Indian Health Service joint venture health facility in the United States.

As part of the joint venture agreement with Cherokee Nation, IHS will provide at least \$100 million annually to the Cherokee Nation for staffing and operations of the new facility, located on the W.W. Hastings campus in Tahlequah.

The new facility will feature 240 exam rooms; access to two MRI machines; 10 new cardiac, lung and kidney specialists over time; and an ambulatory

surgery center. There are five surgical suites and two endoscopy suites inside the ambulatory surgery center.

Also included in the new outpatient health center is a dental clinic featuring 34 dental chairs and a full-service optometry department with six eye exam rooms, three audiology testing booths, diagnostic imaging and expanded space for rehabilitation services, behavioral health and a wellness center, helping the tribe deliver first-class care to citizens.

It is estimated 850 new health care jobs will be created from the project over about five years. Hiring has already begun for many of those new positions and job postings can be found online at [www.cherokeejobs.org](http://www.cherokeejobs.org).





# OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation

The Cherokee Nation and Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences are teaming up to establish the nation's first college of medicine to be located at a tribal health facility. The new OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah will be an additional location of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine located in Tulsa.

Construction of the new 84,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art college facility began in May 2019. The medical school building will include classrooms, lecture halls, faculty offices, laboratories and a simulation center that will feature computer-programmable manikins.

The Cherokee Nation committed \$100,000 in scholarship funding to support future Cherokee medical students at the new college. The OSU Center for Health Sciences also secured \$175,000 in scholarship funds from private donors that will be earmarked for Native American medical students.

Plans call for the enrollment of an inaugural class of 50 students starting in the fall of 2020 with a total of up to 200 students when fully operational.

The partnership between Cherokee Nation and OSU is expected to yield groundbreaking research on health issues affecting Native American populations.



## Hulbert Elder Housing Addition

The Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation is trying a unique and new approach to providing houses for elder Cherokee citizens.

Tribal officials broke ground in Hulbert in early 2019 on eight efficiency homes in the new Shade Addition, which is within walking distance to a senior center, the community post office, a public park and other necessities. These new homes are being built through the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation's Rental Properties Program.

Each home will feature one bedroom, one bathroom, a kitchen and a living room for a combined

total living space of about 660 square feet. Interiors are designed with full-sized features including washers and dryers and accessible bathrooms.

The Shade Addition's efficiency homes represent the first of their kind for the Cherokee Nation. Future plans call for 17 efficiency homes to be built in Cherokee Nation communities in an effort to replace some of the tribe's oldest rental properties.

More information on programs offered by the Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation can be found online at [www.hacn.org](http://www.hacn.org).

# Cherokee Nation Directory

918-453-5000 • 800-256-0671

## Government

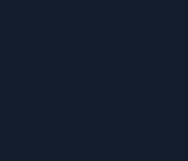
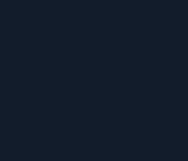
Administration (Executive Branch) 918-453-5618  
 Tribal Council (Legislative Branch) 918-207-3895  
 Tribal Courts (Judicial Branch) 918-207-3990

## Services

Career Services (career training, GED classes, TERO) 918-453-5555  
 Cherokee Arts Center & Spider Gallery 918-453-5000 x.5992  
 Cherokee FIRST Information Center 918-207-3936  
 Cherokee Nation Election Commission 918-458-5899 or 800-353-2895  
 Commerce (small business/mortgage assistance, Kawi Café) 918-453-5536  
 Communications 918-453-5541  
 Community Services (outreach, roads, engineering/sanitation) 918-207-3879  
 Education Services (JOM, scholarships, leadership programs) 918-453-5341  
 Financial Resources 918-453-5402  
 Health Services (main administration) 918-453-5657  
 Human Services (LIHEAP, food/clothing/burial assistance) 918-453-5422  
 Human Resources (employment) 918-453-5292  
 Cherokee Nation Fish & Wildlife (hunting and fishing licenses) 918-453-5333  
 Indian Child Welfare (adoption, foster care, child support) 918-458-6900  
 Marshal Service 918-207-3800 (for emergencies, dial 911)  
 ONE FIRE Victim Services 918-772-4260 or 866-458-5399 (emergency hotline)  
 Real Estate Services (trust/restricted lands, wills) 918-453-5350  
 Sequoyah Schools 918-453-5400 or 888-467-4746  
 Tax Commission (motor vehicle tags) 918-453-5100  
 Transit (Pelivan, KATS and others) 918-453-5731  
 Tribal Registration (citizenship) 918-458-6980  
 Veterans Center 918-772-4166

## Businesses & Affiliates

Cherokee Nation Businesses 918-384-7474  
 Cherokee Elder Care 918-453-5554  
 Cherokee Nation Foundation (scholarships) 918-207-0950  
 Cherokee Nation Home Health 918-458-6102 or 888-281-6910  
 Cherokee Tourism (museums, classes) 877-779-6977  
 Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation 918-456-5482 or 800-837-2869



GWY3 D3F  
CHEROKEE NATION®

P.O. Box 948  
Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948  
918-453-5000  
[www.cherokee.org](http://www.cherokee.org)

