

G W Y . 3 D B F  
CHEROKEE NATION®



# Reclaiming Futures in our Community

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# The Beginnings

- The Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court began seeing clients in 2005. Several years of planning went into the establishment of the Court.
- Served Adair and Cherokee Counties
- Served tribal youth in Cherokee Nation Tribal Court and those youth in state courts who were facing charges related to drugs or alcohol or those who may have been identified as having drug or alcohol issues.
- Court seen as an alternative to detention and as a way for the youth to receive treatment while in trouble.

# More about the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court

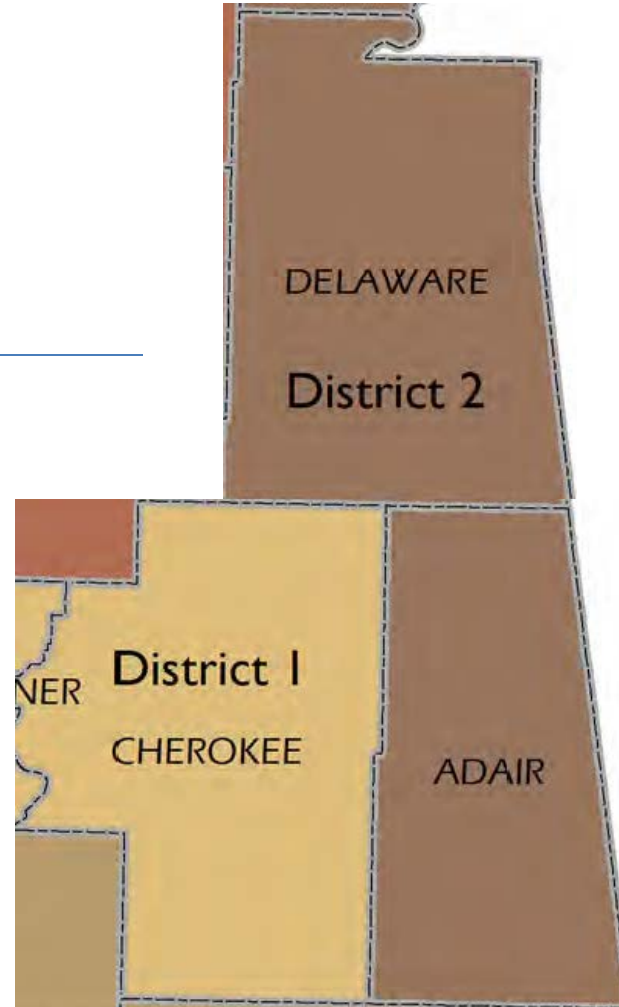
- Team approach; Team gives recommendations to the Judge
- Family centered; Parent(s) required to be at Court, other family members encouraged to attend and support youth
- Cultural emphasis
- Four phases; lasting 9 mos., 12 mos., or 18 mos.
- In 2008 the Program operations was moved under Cherokee Nation Human Services

# More about the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court

- In 2009 the Healing to Wellness Court became part of the Reclaiming Futures National Initiative
- Reclaiming Futures is about communities helping teens overcome drugs, alcohol, & crime
- Reclaiming Futures mantra “More Treatment, Better Treatment, Beyond Treatment”
- In 2011 the Healing to Wellness Court was expanded to Delaware County



# Where We Serve



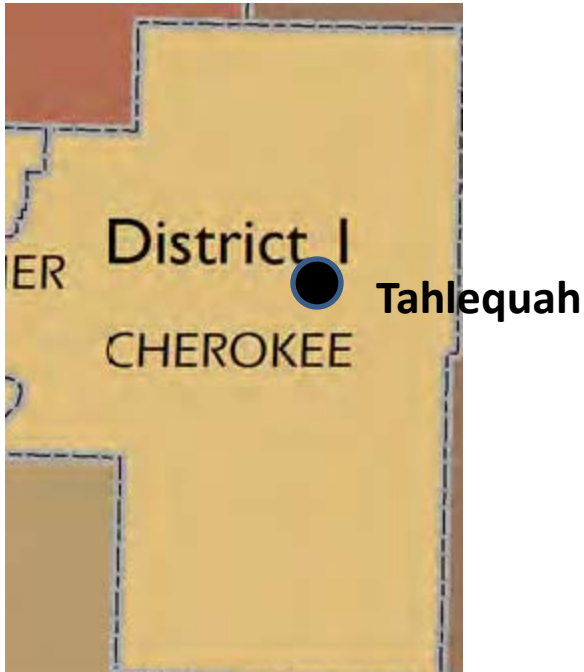
The Healing to Wellness Court accept referrals from each of these county courts and/or juvenile justice units

# Healing to Wellness Court



- Began in October 2012
- Court is held at the Delaware County Courthouse once a month
- Cherokee Nation District Court Judge & Delaware County Associate District Court Judge worked to establish
- Delaware County Associate District Court Judge now presides

# Healing to Wellness Court



- Began in 2005
- Court is held at the Cherokee Nation Courthouse once a month
- Cherokee Nation District Court Judge presides



# Referrals

- Tribal Court System
- State Court Transfer
- Juvenile Services Units (Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs)
- Schools
- Youth Shelter
- Caregiver





# Services Offered

- Case management
- Drug Testing
- Pro-social activities & outings
- Weekly monitoring
- Support for sobriety of youth & family
- Advocacy



# What We Do Well

- Addressing transportation issues of youth and their families
- Take services to youth's community to eliminate barriers
- Building relationships with youth and families by getting to know where they come from



# Addressing transportation issues

- We avoid “punishing” the youth because of the parent/guardian’s inability to provide transportation
- We make home visits as part of intake process and continue the entire time the youth is with us
- We use field offices as meeting places
- We use community facilities as meeting places (libraries, restaurants, churches, AA/NA meeting locations)



# Addressing transportation issues

- We access bus tickets, gift cards, or donations for the purchase of gasoline, when imminent need arises
- We work with families to access other social service programs if car repairs are needed
- We can provide transportation to appointments or to other needed services when youth/family are in need

# Take Services to Community...

- Our main office located in Tahlequah, OK is approximately 40 miles away from youth in Adair County, 70 miles away from youth in Delaware County
- Weekly home visits allow staff to continually determine what services are needed
- Treatment services are provided in the youth's community

# Take Services to Community...

- With parent's approval staff takes youth to AA/NA meeting (these are not court ordered)
- Court appearance occurs in their community
- Healing to Wellness Court Staff and Team travels to Delaware County once a month to support youth, family, and program operations
- Drug testing occurs in their community at a discreet location (community organization has provided their facility for testing and counseling services when needed)

# Building Relationships.....

- By visiting youth's home and community it allows the youth to open up to staff
- Parents/guardians become more trusting and will contact you if they have concerns
- We spent time exploring the youth's community
- We spent time chatting in the car with youth
- We spent time meeting extended family

# Alternatives to Detention

- Involvement in the Healing to Wellness Court
  - Short-term goals with incentives
- Short-term placement in a local youth shelter
- Residential treatment
- Relative placement
- Family counseling & family accountability