

Dear Chickasaw Friends. Hello, how are you? I hope this finds you well. Thank you so much for your continuing prayers for my family as we struggle to regain our health.

The Human Resources Committee met on July 8 and received a presentation from the Chickasaw Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Department. This department includes the Vocational Rehabilitation Program, the American Indian Vocational Services Program (“AIVS”) and the Projects with Industry Program (“PWI”). All programs provide services to help American Indians with disabilities enter or reenter gainful employment that is compatible with their disabilities. Currently the Vocational Rehabilitation Program provides services to more than 450 consumers throughout the Chickasaw Nation. The PWI and AIVS programs are currently providing services to close to 200 American Indians with disabilities who reside throughout the state of Oklahoma. The Vocational Rehabilitation Program has an office in Ada and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors who visit regional offices throughout the Chickasaw Nation to provide services to American Indians with disabilities. The AIVS and PWI programs have offices in Ada, Oklahoma City, and Tulsa and visit other areas throughout the state to provide services to American Indians with disabilities.

The annual elections just concluded and I am very honored to have been re-elected to office. The words “thank you” do not seem sufficient to express the gratitude that I feel to be given the task of representing the voters of Pontotoc District in the Tribal Legislature. Please know that I am constantly aware of the responsibilities of this office and that I always strive to represent you to the best of my abilities. Thank you for your support.

If you have questions or comments, please email me through dean.mcmanus@chickasaw.net or contact me through the address or telephone numbers listed elsewhere in this and every issue of the Chickasaw Times. Happiness is people like you!

God Bless

Dean McManus, Pontotoc District Seat 4