

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Supporting Changes to Oklahoma Statute Recognizing Tribal Domestic Violence Programs, Tribal Batterer Intervention Programs, And Tribal Domestic Violence Specialists

Resolution No. 15-05



Bill John Baker
Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby
Governor



Gary Batton
Principal Chief



George Tiger
Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo
Principal Chief

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing over 500,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, each of the Five Civilized Tribes offer domestic and sexual assault services to victims or survivors of domestic abuse or sexual assault and any dependent children of such victims or survivors; and

WHEREAS, several of the Five Civilized Tribes offer batterer intervention services for persons who commit domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the domestic and sexual assault program services and the batterer intervention program services offered by the Five Civilized Tribes exhibit responsibility to the client as demonstrated by suitable facilities, trained staff and critical services which are accessible, safe, culturally competent and confidential; and

WHEREAS, Oklahoma State Statutes currently does not recognize Tribal domestic and sexual violence programs, batterer intervention programs, and the domestic violence specialists trained to provide the services above described; and

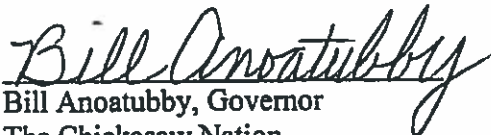
WHEREAS, because the domestic and sexual violence programs, batterer intervention programs, and the domestic violence specialists of the Tribes are not recognized under State Statute, the quality of services offered by the Tribes and the professionalism and qualifications of their Tribal program staff are often not acknowledged as equal to state program services; and


WHEREAS, changes to the Oklahoma State Statutes to recognize Tribal domestic and sexual violence programs, batterer intervention programs, and the domestic violence specialists would allow for inclusion and consideration of the Tribal programs and their staff from state certified programs, state agencies, members of the state judiciary and court personnel, and city, state and municipal law enforcement, and other allied professions that serve domestic and sexual assault victims and survivors; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports changes to Oklahoma State Statutes to recognize tribal domestic and sexual violence programs, batterer intervention programs, and domestic violence specialists.


CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma on this 9th day of January 2015, by a vote of ~~ALL IN FAVOR~~ for none against and 0 abstentions.


Bill Anoatubby, Governor
The Chickasaw Nation


George Tiger, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation


Gary Bolton, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma


Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma

For 
Bill John Baker, Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation