



Office of Clinical and Preventive Services
Division of Clinical and Community Services



Choctaw nation of Oklahoma

Domestic Violence Prevention Initiative

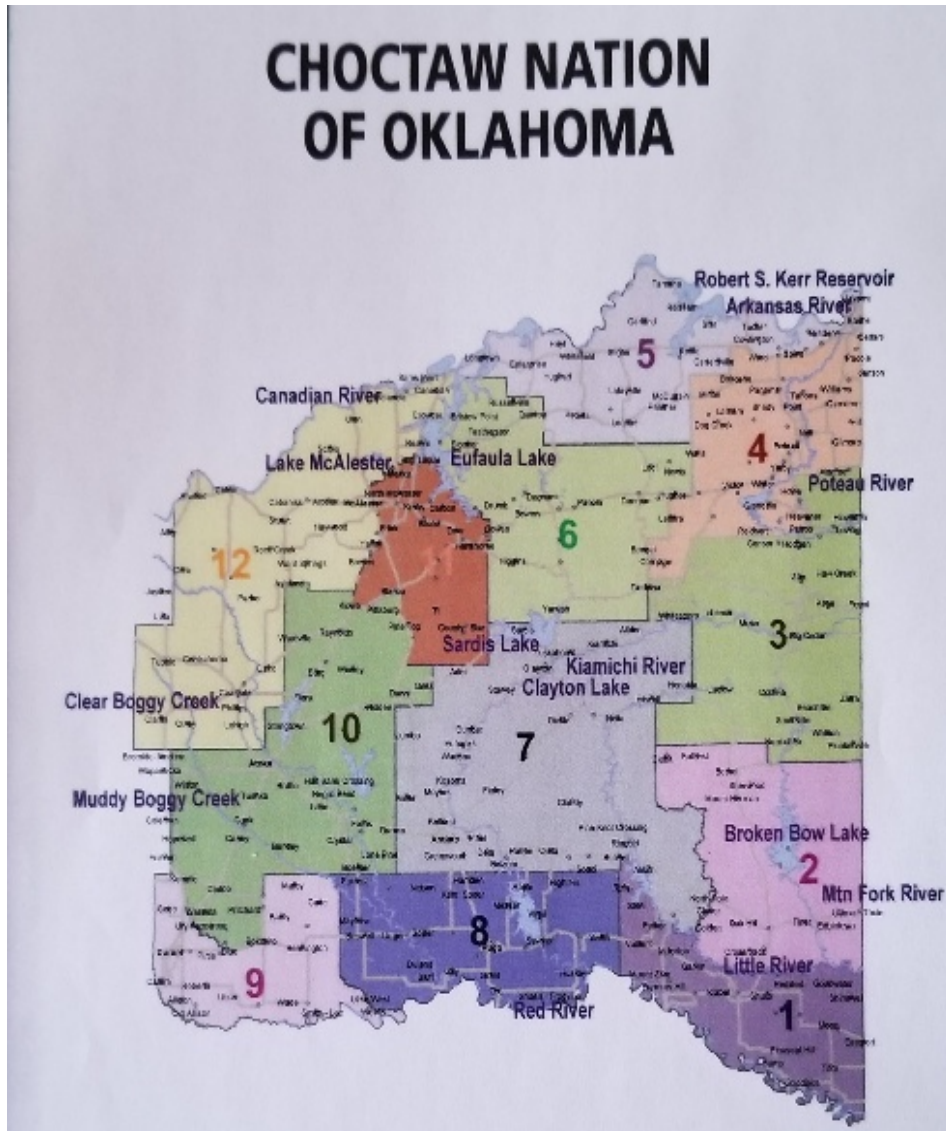
Purpose Area 1: Homakbi Ribbon

Purpose Area 2: Project Strong

IHS Area: Oklahoma



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma



- Choctaw Nation is not a reservation-based tribe
- 10,887 square mile council district
- 194,670 enrolled members in the world
- 45,324 enrolled members in the 10 1/2 counties

About Homakbi Ribbon & Project strong

- Primary goals:
 - ✓ Respond to the healthcare needs of American Indian and American Native (AI/AN) victims of domestic and sexual violence.
 - ✓ to break the cycle of family violence by increasing client access to culturally based domestic and sexual violence prevention, advocacy, medical care, crisis intervention, and behavioral health services for AI/AN victims and their families.
- How do we accomplish these goals?
 - ✓ by maintaining a robust and successful model of Medical Forensic Teamwork.
- What we offer?
 - ✓ trauma-informed services for AI/AN victims of domestic and sexual violence.
 - ✓ education on domestic and sexual violence for healthcare providers and community members.
- Who we serve?
 - ✓ specifically Pittsburg and Pushmataha County as well as all 10 ½ counties.

Benefits of developing partnerships

- Framework
- Culture
- Values
- Shared vision and purpose
- Trust
- Shared and transparent decision-making processes
 - ✓ It is understood that developing partnerships is a shared responsibility to create an environment of healing and safety for those impacted by the trauma of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Developing partnerships

- DVPI Homakbi Ribbon collaborates with area high schools (Counselors) to teach 9th-12th grade students about Healthy Relationships and the warning signs of potential abuse.



Project strong collaborations

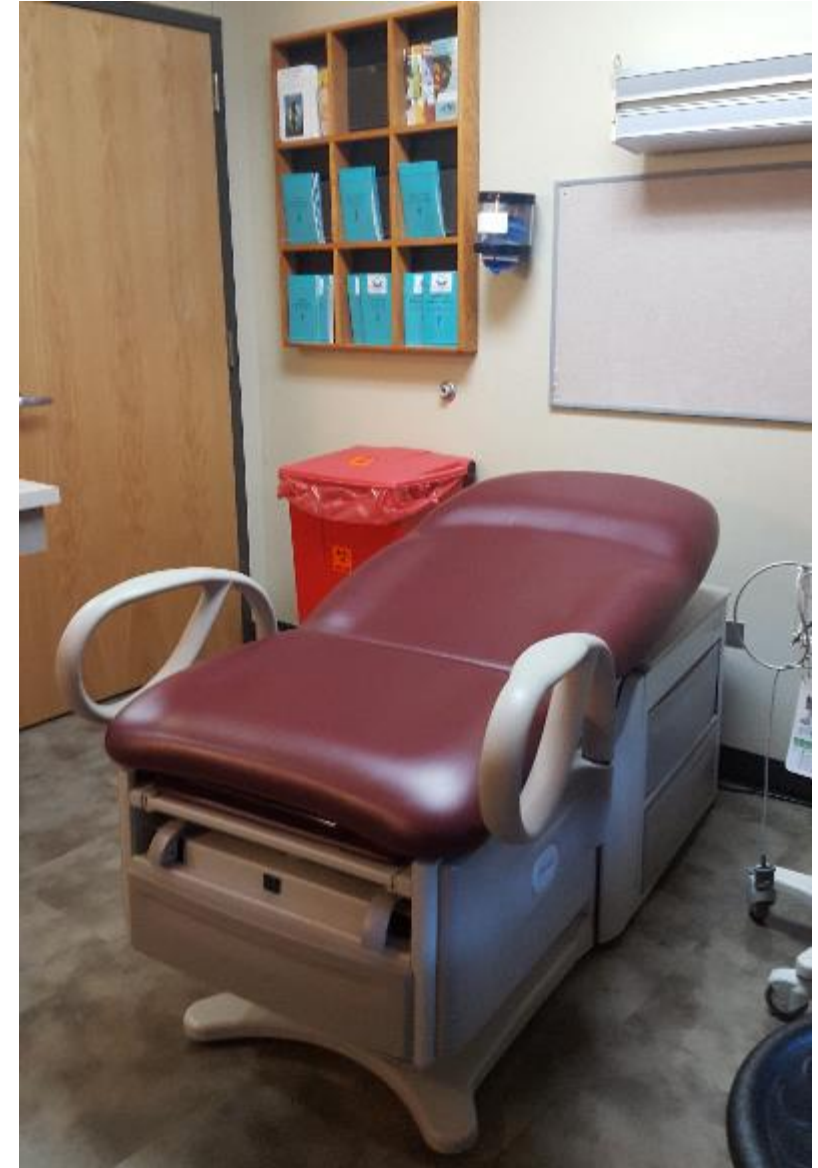
Project Strong collaborates with a Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) to investigate child abuse cases.

MDT consist of Law enforcement, Child Protective Services, Prosecution, Mental Health, Victim Advocate and Child Advocacy Center.

We provide forensic interviews for Pittsburg County and Pushmataha County.



- Project Strong also collaborates with Choctaw Nation Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) for adults 18 and over.
- SART consist of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Victim Advocates, Law Enforcement, Mental Health.
- We provide victim advocacy for victims of sexual assault.



How to address children with the topics of abuse and assault

- Homakbi Ribbon presents, teaches and guides children, teenagers, young adults, and older adults by conducting training sessions, presentations, and series of group teachings. For example: DVPI collaborates with McAlester Tae Kwon Do to provide Anti-Bullying and Women's Self Defense events to schools and communities that are open to the public. We are able to provide and demonstrate techniques, along with skits (scenarios) when confronted with a bullying situation.
- Project Strong educates providers on reporting child abuse and signs of abuse along with educating the community on services and general information on sexual assault and child abuse. Provides Touch Talk to school age children.

How to seek out small opportunities to make a large impact

- Project Strong and Homakbi Ribbon collaborated together to provide a training for professionals and one to the community. The training was about Recognizing Dangers in Today's Society.
- Project Strong collaborates with law enforcement to present to CLEET training officers about how to respond to sexual assault victims and child abuse.
- Project Strong speaks to new employees of Choctaw Nation about reporting child abuse and sexual assault.
- Informational tables at community events.

Choctaw Nation

Homakbi Ribbon & Project Strong

- DVPI staff:
 - Stephaine Vernor, Prevention Specialist with Homakbi Ribbon
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 - Jennifer Heflin, Victim Advocate and Forensic Interviewer with Project Strong
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