CHEROKEE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

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2015

Preservation Through Innovation

www.cherokeepreservation.org
The Cherokee Preservation Foundation’s reputation is built on the strength and quality of its staff. Meet the people who are contributing to the Foundation’s commitment to be a proactive agent of progress for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI), its people, its land, and its culture—a catalyst for western North Carolina partnerships, and a model for American service communities.

The Cherokee Preservation Foundation has much to be grateful for in 2014, a year of celebration, reflection and innovation. We were surrounded by grantees who grew ideas and concepts into established, service-oriented projects and programs. Many of these celebrated 10+ years of service to the Qualla Boundary and western North Carolina. From addressing future environmental needs to producing cutting-edge teaching methods for language education and workforce development, we are honored to be part of the journey and excited to be front and center to witness the advances thoughtful planning and preparation bring to our community’s future.

In this report, you will find examples of how organizations rooted in culture and tradition harken back to this wisdom to inform creative approaches to modern challenges. Technology and innovation are not only for the next generation. We find that our generation has a responsibility to employ these tools and skills, but more importantly, strengthen them with the values and insight core to our communities. We have chosen the theme for this year’s Annual Report, “Preservation through Innovation” for these reasons.

Over the past 12 years, we have found that groups willing to work together toward a common goal are producing the most significant and forward-thinking results in their given fields. These organizations are able to maximize resources and empower one another’s work. Because of this collaboration, communities and our region are stronger. We hope to continue to always be brokers of positive change for our stakeholders. In the coming year, we plan to grow our efforts as connectors by bringing new opportunities for partners to access important data, research, national/international examples, and testimonials to inform their practice.

As we begin our planning process for our 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, we will be reaching out to you for input, ideas, and feedback on the work we are engaged in. It is vital to our mission that we are partners with the communities we serve. We hope that we can continue to learn from you. With your guidance and support, we all will continue to preserve, enhance, and create an improved quality of life for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and western North Carolina.

LETTER from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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ANNETTE SAUNOOKE CLAPSADDLE
Executive Director

#willwriteforfood

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ALL STAFF PHOTOS: CARMEN NATIONS EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

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HOW WE SUPPORT THE EASTERN BAND

❖ FUNDING
As an independent nonprofit foundation, we provide funding for grants that improve the quality of life for the EBCI and our neighbors in western North Carolina. Our funds come from the EBCI from gaming revenues generated by the Tribe.

❖ TECHNOLOGY
Providing access to and education surrounding technology is critical, especially for our children. We support our schools by funding class equipment and smart boards, and work with RESO, the STEM school partnership, to provide easy technology access.

❖ CONNECTING LIKE-MINDED GROUPS
We enjoy bringing groups with common goals together, whether it’s providing office space for meetings, refreshments, or comprehensive facilitation. Because we work with so many diverse groups, we can encourage collaboration among those with common goals, even if they don’t realize they have common goals.

❖ MATCHING FUNDING
Our wide-ranging connections in the nonprofit community help us partner with other organizations to match funds for grants we provide. We both seek and are sought out by potential partners from many geographic locations for this purpose.

❖ STRATEGIC FOCUS ASSESSMENTS
Providing strategic assessment tools for internal measurements assures that our grant making is on target and funds are invested well. It also increases our partners’ abilities to better evaluate their growth and potential.

❖ ACCESSING EXPERT NETWORKS
Our membership in several different grant makers’ networks gives us exposure to organizations doing similar work. By tapping into this network we learn about valuable resources such as expert consultants and timely research.

❖ GRANTEE PUBLICITY
We are proud of our grantees and assist with public relations and marketing focused on their successes. We do this in many ways, including social media and special events.

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CHEROKEE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION
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CHEROKEE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION
Grant Making Totals
Fall 2002 through Spring 2015 Grant Cycles
❖ 1,149 proposals were received for a total of $80,552,383
❖ 886 grants were awarded for a total of $71,542,337
❖ AREAS OF FOCUS:
  • Cultural Preservation — 445 grants = 50%
  • Economic Development/Employment — 250 grants = 30%
  • Environmental Preservation — 181 grants = 20%
❖ GRANTS
  • Of the 886 grants, 509 (57%) went to EBCI institutions/projects and 377 (43%) went to EBCI/regional collaborative projects.
❖ MONIES
  • Of the total $72,542,337, 77% went to EBCI institutions/projects and 23% went to EBCI/regional collaborative projects. All EBCI/regional projects have direct impact on tribal members or tribal programs.

For every $1 given by CPF, it has been matched by $1.46, either by secured funds/grants, in-kind or leveraged resources, making our total contribution to the area $176,703,064.
Energy efficiency is the foundation of all sustainable strategies. Understanding the specific conditions that are affecting the energy performance of a community is necessary to maximize the overall impact of focused improvements. But how do you assess specific improvements to provide maximum comfort and energy savings?

“Before we spend dollars on energy improvements, it makes good economic sense to have an energy audit performed to find out which are the most cost effective improvements to make,” said Cameron Cooper, energy program coordinator for the Eastern Band. “A comprehensive energy audit will identify the most effective energy improvements we can make as a community.”

Thanks to a grant through the Cherokee Preservation Foundation, the tribe will undergo an energy assessment/audit as the first step in identifying various energy efficiency opportunities for all tribal facilities. The objective of the energy audit is to identify economical energy cost saving measures.

“Energy audits are a needed step in implementation of any detailed and sizable energy efficiency project,” said Cooper. “Ultimately, the tribe can save energy by upgrading to high-efficiency lighting and exploring other cost saving measures such as replacing heating/cooling equipment, cutting heat loss, conserving water, and installing renewable or other clean energy technologies.”

Investing in renewable energy and energy conservation on the Qualla Boundary will ultimately save money for future generations and help to diversify the economy and create opportunities for on-the-job training for skilled labor.

Investing in long-term strategies to conserve energy and increase energy from renewable resources requires a new approach to decision making.

Implementing a comprehensive energy efficiency retrofit project that pays for itself through the energy savings can be a complex undertaking.

However, investing in renewable energy and energy conservation on the Qualla Boundary will ultimately save money for future generations and help to diversify the economy and create opportunities for on-the-job training for skilled labor.

“There is so much potential for the tribe to see huge savings in not only electric costs, but also propane, natural gas and even water bills,” said Cooper. “With this grant to hire a professional energy auditor, the tribe will be able to have a program tailored to its needs, with a plan to follow to insure that the money spent on energy efficiency is not wasted.”

By analyzing the major energy components on the boundary, a comprehensive energy audit will provide a big picture overview of how the infrastructure works. This will prove to be effective in helping promote a building’s longevity and durability and ultimately will help with the overall quality of life for the community.

“The energy audit will help us figure out what changes must be made to move forward for the future of our people,” said Cooper. “Investing in energy efficiency improvements will ultimately save us money and is a great opportunity to address the needs of the community at large.”
What is leadership? Leadership involves a skill set to inspire and motivate others, to communicate effectively, to take initiative, to make plans and execute them, and so much more. And how do you teach those skills to teenagers? Parents, teachers, coaches, scoutmasters, youth counselors and advisors strive to do so every day, but often have limited (if any) training on how best to accomplish this goal. Some experts believe it’s best to leave the classroom in order to develop skills and knowledge in real-world settings, allowing passions and goals to come forward, celebrating achievements within a tight-knit group of peers and, ultimately, finding his or her own path.

Over the past 10 years, 192 students and chaperones from the Qualla Boundary and the region have participated in the Costa Rica Eco-Study Tour. The program is an ongoing partnership with the Cherokee Preservation Foundation, EARTH University and the EBCI Cooperative Extension. The trip provides middle and high school students an opportunity to experience different cultural worldviews, and encourages them to reflect on their own cultural understanding. This in turn helps them recognize the need to respect other people’s opinions and perspectives when addressing challenges. By encouraging these empowerment activities, the program allows the participants to begin gaining lifelong leadership skills.

“This is one of the best programs for teenagers to fully engage and participate in cultural exchange activities with indigenous tribes from Costa Rica,” said Tammy Jackson, the Costa Rica Eco-Study Tour coordinator. “The trip provides the students with many life changing experiences. They are exposed to acute poverty, inadequate housing, and sanitation problems, and come away realizing that Costa Ricans care more about a sustainable environment and family values than developing material wealth.”

Prior to the trip, participants are required to perform 20 hours of community service and engage in several team building activities. They prepare individual cultural projects to present to other tribes, which are reviewed by the group in practice sessions. They also identify and develop a service project that will help an indigenous tribe in Costa Rica.

Leadership skills are necessary to manage a team, to stand out as an employee or to start a business. The impact of venturing into an unknown culture, stepping out of their comfort zones and experiencing something new, enables participants to ultimately learn these techniques.
Cherokee Middle School students are getting outside to play and learn through a partnership with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP). A Cherokee Preservation Foundation grant is supporting middle school children to integrate STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) curriculum with Cherokee cultural ideas. The idea behind the project is to instill stewardship for natural and cultural park resources.

The program is called Seeking Paths in Nature, and it is a fun and popular way to learn. It combines existing Park programs with new programs focused on Cherokee culture. The idea behind the project is to instill stewardship for natural and cultural park resources.

The program is called Seeking Paths in Nature, and it is a fun and popular way to learn. It combines existing Park programs with new programs focused on Cherokee culture. The project is led by the education project coordinator and the liaison between the Park and the middle school. A former middle school teacher, she is excited about using the Park in the classroom and as the classroom.

"Recently our students went to the Park and looked for salamanders, weighing them, recording the info, and determining the species," said Metz-Bugg. "We incorporated a Cherokee story about the salamander into this field trip to illustrate an aspect of Cherokee culture.

Teachers and students use social media to communicate with each other as part of the program. Students post photos on a Facebook page to share with others. In another innovative use of technology, students take part in scavenger hunts and use their cell phones to take "selfies" to prove they found the item. A website, www.seekingpathsinnature.org, is updated regularly, and events are posted on a calendar that is linked to the school calendar.

"We’re also using online surveys to keep up with what teachers and rangers need, and to better understand their progress," said Metz-Bugg.

Eighth graders are studying water quality to learn about the watershed from both a cultural and scientific perspective. Rangers reminded students of the Cherokee story about Long Man. In the story, the man’s body is the river, his head is in the mountains and his feet are in the sea. Students then used a Vermeer probe to take measurements on PH, turbidity, oxygen, and recorded the data. They used math and science to look at the data over time and then came up with conclusions about water quality. Eventually, they are able to tie the positive and negative impacts on water quality to all aspects of the river system (mountains to sea), just as the Cherokee culture has for centuries.

Students always take a pre-test and a post-test to measure results from the program. The data they collect goes into a special “hands on the land” database that is shared with teachers and researchers.

"The Park embraces the importance of teaching a cultural worldview; it’s important for preservation," said Metz-Bugg. "If we can help students care about this, they will want to continue to preserve in the future."
CULTURAL PRESERVATION

CHEROKEE LANGUAGE APP HELPS PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN NATIVE LANGUAGE

With only 219 fluent Cherokee speakers left in the tribe, it's getting more difficult to practice and speak Cherokee, especially at home. Just ask Laura Pinnix, Cherokee Cultural Director and teacher at Cherokee Central School. She fields requests to translate all kinds of words into Cherokee every day. It was the daily requests for translating simple words, many times the same word, that prompted her to begin to look for a technical solution.

That technical solution is now a reality. A Cherokee language app was introduced this spring. The app is considered a level one app covering only basic Cherokee language, with more levels being introduced in the future.

“We had talked for years about developing a program that people could use to learn Cherokee words for simple things like colors, numbers, and weather, and we wanted to make it accessible,” said Pinnix. “We thought about developing an app, but we had to find a funder to make it happen. The Cherokee Preservation Foundation (CPF) really helped us do that.”

The app will be available through the App Store, and people can use it at home. It’s also interactive. Users learn vocabulary through flash cards they swipe on the screen. There are many different lessons and students take quizzes at the end to determine their proficiency.

“Students took all the photos for the flash cards, and Cherokee elders who are fluent were recorded for the app,” said Sasha Watty, program associate for the CPF. “It’s really awesome, and now we are thinking of more things we can do with it.”

Cherokee Central School engaged Image Solutions from Asheville to develop the app, and it was more than a year in the making. The first iteration appeared last November, and many people tested and tweaked it for the final version.

“Our goal was to offer another option for people to use to speak a second language, and using technology was the best way to go,” said Watty. “Everyone, especially students, uses technology today, and we needed to get up to speed.”

Renissa McLaughlin works with KPEP, the Cherokee immersion school that speaks only Cherokee all day to students through the 8th grade. Several people from her school helped improve the app.

“We gave feedback on the look of the app, and we are looking forward to the launch of the mobile version,” she said. “Our children will typically be more advanced for the program, but this will allow the children to see Cherokee language beyond the classroom. It will also be instrumental in having parents work with their children or for parents learning on their own.”

Teachers in the area are using the app to help them integrate Cherokee language and culture into the classroom. Many are learning the language along with students. In fact, some students are learning so quickly that they are teaching the teachers.

“One student worked on the app for her senior project, and created many recordings for us. As the word is spreading, more and more students want to be involved. We want the younger generation to participate—they are our future,” said Pinnix. “I knew it was going to be hard work, with a lot of recording and thinking time. But it was a great collaborative effort. We knew we must do something to preserve the language. This is a dream come true for us.”
The cultural heritage of a people is comprised of thousands of years of tradition and lifeways. It embodies a people’s connection to its history, customs and place. The recognition and incorporation of these values into conservation planning can in many cases make or break a project. We, as humans, have inherited a universal right and responsibility to have access to natural areas, clean air, and clean water as was enjoyed by our ancestors. The very trees, rocks, and rivers that comprise our landscape become natural landmarks that connect us to our past.

It is in the interest of the Cherokee people to map and reconstruct our ancient landscapes, even if only in virtual maps with chronological layers of geographical history. These maps include ancestral place names, towns, mounds, village sites, fishing weirs, hunting places and nineteenth century farmsteads. Layers in modern GIS or Google Earth mapping programs allow for snapshots at particular times. Native towns and villages moved periodically, making the cultural phenomena demonstrated with this technology quite remarkable.

Much has been done in the conservation movement across America since the early 1900’s to regulate hunting, establish wildlife preserves, national parks, national forests, scenic areas and state forests and parks. Little has been done to define or preserve places that are significant to native peoples unless they can be proved to be sacred burial or archaeological sites. However, native travel ways or trails became the blueprint for modern transportation. Many of these corridors and sometimes original remnants are still found on both private and public lands. Trails serve as the connecting spokes of the native landscape.

Utilizing grant funding from the Cherokee Preservation Foundation, Wild South has mapped hundreds of miles of Cherokee trails across western North Carolina and is currently working with the Forest Service to have significant trails or corridors designated and protected.

The National Park Service developed Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) designations as a means by which Native American traditional use of special places can be continued on public lands. Provisions have been made to allow federally recognized Cherokees to continue their traditional practice of gathering Sochan, a wild green, on Park land each spring. TCP’s can also be designated in National Parks and National Forests.

Cultural and historical tourism featuring Native American reconstruction of historical landscapes is a new concept by which native tribes can revisit their past using web-based applications and GPS integrated iPhone, Android and iPad technology. The technology is successfully being used today.
Representative CPF Funded Projects Across WNC

1. Cherokee County—Tri-County Community College
2. Clay County—CCCRA
3. Graham County—Graham County Indian Education
4. Haywood County—Folkmoot
5. Jackson County—WCU Coulter Leadership +
6. Macon County—LTLT RTCAR & Pottery School Qualla Boundary Vicinity
7. Big Cove Community Group
8. Cherokee Children’s Home
9. Cherokee Choices
10. Cherokee Historical Association
11. Museum of the Cherokee
12. Qualla Arts
13. THPO & Wild South
14. Swain County—WATR project GSMNP
Although the current Museum of the Cherokee Indian website includes a vast reservoir of collections, artifacts, events, and exhibits, the website design and technology is a decade old. With the advance in technology and modern design trends, it was well past time to create a new website.

“The current site is old, and we needed a website that could interface with social media and manage a robust online store,” said Bo Taylor, executive director, Museum of the Cherokee Indian. “We also wanted this new site to help us spread the word about our mission, to provide people with a better sense of who the Cherokee are and what they are about.”

A grant through the Cherokee Preservation Foundation (CPF) is supporting the new website, and Museum staff members are excited about the progress being made.

Staff members met last fall to determine what was important to update, add, and change. A request for proposals assured a comprehensive selection process, and a vendor was chosen last December.

“We went through this thorough process to make sure that the firm we selected had the capability. We have an online store with 1,000 items that needed to transfer easily,” said Barbara Duncan, education director of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian.

The Museum website also includes a huge database of collections, archives, and manuscripts you can search online, and that database also needed to transfer seamlessly.

“Our website includes hundreds of items such as arrowheads, baskets, pots, and photos, all of which are handy for students writing papers, and for people researching books, movies, and dissertations,” said Duncan. “All of those also must transfer in a good way and function well.”

Retaining high Search Engine Optimization (SEO) rankings on the Internet is another critical element for the new website. High rankings mean that more people will come to the site and shop in the online store. The site will have the capability to insure the current SEO page tags transfer to each page, guaranteeing SEO rankings remain high.

“We’re counting on this site to help us make the money we need to keep operating,” said Duncan. “About 75% of our budget comes from ticket sales and the online store, so we really rely on technology.”

A new design is part of the site upgrade, and while it will have its own distinctive look, it will reflect the visual brand of the Cherokee’s main website, visitcheroenc.com.

With a new look and the latest technology, the Museum of the Cherokee Indian’s new website will help improve its educational outreach, ticket sales, and online shopping experience. The new, updated site will launch in early summer 2015.
In 2014, the Cherokee Preservation Foundation (CPF) launched a major initiative called Qualla 2020. Its purpose is to develop and expand businesses in ways that help diversify the Cherokee economy and embrace Cherokee core values. An important part of that initiative is focused on improving existing technology on the Qualla Boundary and attracting knowledge industries to the area. As a result of the initial meetings, a marketing plan will be developed to attract more knowledge industries to the Boundary. Some of the action items for attracting knowledge industries include an inventory and quantifying key assets in the region. Market research will also be conducted to develop clear profiles of the targeted knowledge businesses to attract.

“We are just at the beginning of this process,” said Dan Martin, senior program associate for the CPF. “To date, we have conducted community meetings and developed a short video.”

Accommodating knowledge business entrepreneurs requires a high level of technology infrastructure, and that will be the basis of another plan. A feasibility study to determine demand for fiber-enabled offices and co-working spaces will be launched soon.

“We need to determine if there is demand for this technology and co-working space, and if so, what rental price points will work,” said Martin. “Individual interviews and an online survey of tech and home-based entrepreneurs in the area will help us find out.”

Russ Seagle, executive director for the Sequoyah Fund, participated in the action plan for fiber offices and co-working space. He noted that the trend toward home-based businesses and the solopreneur will continue to grow.

“These businesses will need high speed Internet access and the ability to work in close proximity to other likeminded business owners. Co-working encourages cross-pollination of ideas, methods, and systems so the people who are working elbow-to-elbow become powerful resources for each other,” said Seagle.

The Sequoyah Fund currently is making some of their excess office space available to local entrepreneurs on a short-term basis for co-working space. This allows them to test the market while having a direct economic impact.

Real estate is another area where technology can play a crucial role. Currently the Bureau of Indian Affairs manages the real estate function, but that will soon be turned over to the tribe. Tribal laws and traditions make purchasing land on the Boundary complex. It can take more than a year to get an appraisal and sometimes documents are not preserved or accurate. A proposed grant is underway to begin using GIS technology to streamline the process.

“The idea is to work with GIS to digitize land records and map out everything so that future land transactions will be faster and saved as public documents,” said Martin.
In this age of ongoing discovery, scientifically knowledgeable students who can meet the world’s environmental, political, and economic challenges are more important than ever. The teaching of science offers students the ability to access a wealth of knowledge and information, contributing to an overall understanding of how and why things work like they do.

Children are able to use this knowledge to understand new concepts, make well-informed decisions and pursue new interests. Science also helps to provide tactile or visible proof of many facts we read about in books or see on the television, helping to increase understanding and retain information.

The Cherokee Preservation Foundation (CPF) supports ongoing workforce development by providing funds to the Western Region Education Service Alliance (WRESA). These resources will help advance new ways to enhance science learning to help close achievement gaps in science for students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The Appalachian Waves Project, a summer training model for regional teachers in eight county school systems, including Cherokee Central schools, was established to effectively use state-of-the-art STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) technology as lesson tools to improve student awareness and increase learning.

“The three-day teacher workshop held this summer was centered around sound, light and water waves and was a positive way for teachers to explore the nitty-gritty, hands-on approaches of science,” said Dr. Emily Darling, Grant Coordinator and Science Educator. “As the teachers became the students, they were able to learn the language of science and advance their knowledge to better teach their students.”

Anyone who has ever taught a science course knows that students are not a uniform group. They come into classes with differing background knowledge about subject matter content, broad ranges of intellectual skills, and a variety of beliefs and attitudes toward the topic and toward learning.

Teachers want to deliver engaging, fun, hands-on science lessons that will get students excited to keep exploring how the world works. But how do teachers, who are expected to teach multiple subjects and often feel they don’t have the tools to teach science well, begin to spark scientific inquiry and curiosity in students?

“Products such as lesson plans, science kits for the classroom, videos and online resources will allow teachers and students to be impacted by this grant,” said Darling. “Science enables students to form questions based both on the knowledge they already have and the insight they wish to gain in the future. Students who excel in science lessons are likely to develop a strong ability to think critically.”

To learn more about the Waves project and view their videos, visit http://cherokeepreservation.org.
The Cherokee Preservation Foundation has awarded 41 grants in their Fall, 2014 and Spring, 2015, grant cycle, awarding over $4.8 million dollars and continuing its mission to improve the quality of life for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) and the surrounding region.

- **Sequoyah Birthplace Museum**: To plan upgrades for the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum's permanent exhibit. **$20,000**
- **The Museum of the Cherokee Indian**: To upgrade the website design, and improve its user-friendly functionality. **$20,000**
- **Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians**: To support investment grade energy audits for Tribal facilities. **$60,000**
- **Swain County High School**: To support the creation of an interactive Cherokee language curriculum online for second language learners. **$6,800**
- **Haywood County Youth Council**: To support the continuation of the Haywood County Youth Council. **$15,000**
- **The Cherokee Chamber of Commerce**: To continue long-term strategy and sustainability planning through personal support and Board of Director's training. **$85,690**
- **Cherokee Boy's Club**: To support Cherokee language instruction at Cherokee Central Schools for 2014/15 school year and developing an app. **$195,481**
- **Western Carolina University Cherokee Studies**: To support the Cherokee Language Program as an integral partner in the Cherokee Language Revitalization Initiative. **$47,058**
- **EBCI Division of Commerce**: To market and advertise for participants of the Greater Cherokee Tourism Council and Cherokee. **$800,000**
- **Cherokee Boys Club**: To support the Cherokee Youth Council to promote leadership training opportunities, leadership development activities and regional youth council development. **$92,706**
- **Cherokee Boys Club**: To provide an international cultural experience for local youth in WNC to strengthen leadership skills. **$104,650**
- **Western North Carolina Regional Education Foundation**: To further the implementation of the STEM-E framework in Cherokee Central as well as western North Carolina school districts. **$324,500**
- **Community Foundation of Western North Carolina**: To provide training, learning opportunities and resources to nonprofits and community groups across the WNC region. **$74,700**
- **Cherokee Boys Club**: To support the Birdtown Community Free Labor group to help its community through selfless giving. **$56,695**
- **North Carolina State University**: To protect traditional artisan resources for future generations. **$120,000**
- **Land Trust for the Little Tennessee**: To expand the Nokwasi to Cowee Cultural Corridor project to capitalize on current opportunities around the environmental and cultural assets of these sites. **$425,975**
- **Cowee Pottery School**: To highlight the historical significance of ‘unaker’ clay in the programming of the Cowee Pottery School. **$9,000**
- **Graham Revitalization Economic Action Team**: To preserve, expand, and utilize river canoe on the Robbinsville High School campus and develop an outdoor classroom with interpretive signage about river canoe. **$23,650**
- **Chattooga Conservancy**: To manage recently transplanted river cane and expand planting at the Chattooga Town site in the Sumter National Forest. **$10,525**
- **Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership**: To support and enhance cultural tourism, build visitation to Cherokee heritage attractions, and expand greater understanding of Cherokee heritage and culture. **$29,592**
- **Cherokee Boys Club**: To provide support to the Children's Home fundraising campaign. **$5,000**
- **Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Division of Commerce**: To plan upgrades for the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum's permanent exhibit. **$20,000**
- **Cherokee Boys Club**: To support the 2014 Money Mosh. **$4,007**
- **Cherokee Preservation Foundation**: To support the Cherokee traditional Green Corn Ceremony. **$2,700**

- **Cherokee Children's Home**: To acquire edible plants, soil amendments, and gardening tools for the edible landscape at the Cherokee Children's Home. **$20,000**
- **Cherokee Indian Hospital Foundation**: To improve the interpersonal competencies of the hospital staff with cultural training and improve relations with the core customer—the EBCI community. **$120,000**
- **Cherokee High School**: To incorporate a master basket maker into the Cherokee High School art classes. **$21,735**
- **Land Trust for the Little Tennessee**: To continue the restoration of river cane and other resources (butternut, yellowroot, mulberry, hazelnuts) on the historic Welch Farm. **$10,000**
- **Watershed Association of the Tuckasegee River**: To hold a fish weir workshop and facilitate a trip to the McClung Museum and Anthropology Department at the University of Tennessee for youth. **$4,950**
- **Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP)**: To develop a culturally-based STEM curriculum to provide Cherokee Middle School and High School students real-world experiential learning opportunities. **$62,500**
- **Hope Center—Cherokee**: To support the BabyFACE program on the Qualla Boundary, serving high-needs families with children from birth to five. **$11,718**
- **American Indian Science & Engineering Society**: To implement a plan to pilot a community-based initiative with the EBCI community to expand increased STEM education opportunities for Cherokee Central School students. **$71,365**
- **Tri-County Community College**: To offset the costs of hiring a Cherokee dance group and storyteller to present, share, and explore the rich and vibrant culture of the Cherokee people. **$3,000**
- **Cherokee Children's Home**: To complete an additional environmentally friendly building that includes energy efficient elements, and includes a purchase price payback time schedule that is based on cost savings for each item. **$400,000**
- **EBCI Tribal Historic Preservation Office (EBCI THPO)**: To conduct archaeological field work along the Nolichucky River in east Tennessee and create fifth and eighth grade educational trunks available to area schools. **$20,000**
- **Jackson County**: To commission a plan utilizing Tribal experts to develop a preservation plan for the significant sites on the Drexel site. **$9,000**
- **Sequoyah Birthplace Museum**: To enhance the new permanent exhibit to host the first Cherokee Heritage Festival. **$15,000**
- **North Carolina International Folk Festival, Inc.**: To include the EBCI in a cultural exchange festival in Haywood County. Representatives from other cultures, hosted by Folkmost, will perform in Cherokee. **$13,555**
- **Land Trust for the Little Tennessee**: To enhance the bird monitoring, research, and other resources (butternut, yellowroot, mulberry, hazelnuts) on the historic Welch Farm. **$10,000**
- **Cherokee Historical Association**: To assist in the development of a new business plan to benefit all cultural partners. **$304,442**
- **Snowbird Cherokees Traditions**: To continue the 2015 Snowbird summer language camp and adult classes. **$40,262**
- **Cherokee Central Schools**: To continue Technology Engineering & Design, and Agricultural Education classes and improve the instructional program for students at Cherokee Central schools. **$134,062**
- **EBCI Kituwah Preservation and Education Program (KKEP)**: To support their ongoing development and delivery of Cherokee language instruction. **$221,250**
- **Museum of the Cherokee Indian**: To revitalize the Cherokee Friends program, and upgrade the Cherokee Heritage Trails website. **$100,496**
- **Museum of the Cherokee Indian**: To highlight Jerry Wolfe as the first Beloved Man of the Cherokee since 1801. **$19,800**
- **Western Carolina University**: To continue leadership development opportunities through the Right Path adult leadership program. **$232,873**