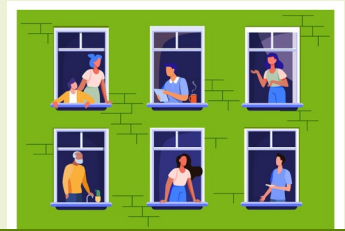


Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration Program

Chickasaw Nation



About the Grant Recipient

The Chickasaw Nation is a federally recognized tribe with 80,000 members that covers 7,648 square miles in south-central Oklahoma. Chickasaw Nation manages the Chickasaw Nation Caring Cottages (CC), which provides Chickasaw Nation citizens in Ada, Oklahoma with fully furnished homes and basic needs support, such as utility assistance, food, and clothing. CC offers 11 affordable housing units to Chickasaw Nation citizens experiencing homelessness in Ada.

About the Award

CC has been awarded \$180,000 through the Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration (AHSSD) program, administered by the Office of Community Services (OCS). With this funding, CC will increase the number of programs and services provided to the Chickasaw Nation community to successfully transition residents into permanent, sustainable housing by:

- Providing more residents with additional basic needs support, including moving and transportation assistance as well as access to household items, food, storage, utilities, and clothing.
- Accompanying residents to court and helping formerly incarcerated individuals find employment.
- Purchasing a wheelchair-accessible van to provide transportation assistance for residents with accessibility needs.
- Helping residents develop the skills they need to maintain high-quality, permanent, sustainable employment by providing life skills courses, access to medical facilities, financial wellness coaching, mental health support, educational opportunities, and child care support.

Combining Affordable Housing with Supportive Services

Affordable housing provides a place to live for individuals and families with low incomes, but sometimes housing alone is not enough to help residents achieve safety, stability, and economic mobility.

Barriers to housing stability include, but are not limited to, having a low income, mental and physical health challenges, limited education, and limited English proficiency.

Combining supportive services with affordable housing has been shown to be an effective strategy for helping vulnerable populations maintain a stable home, while moving toward economic mobility and self-sufficiency.

About the Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration (AHSSD) Program

In fiscal year 2023, [OCS](#) within the [Administration for Children and Families](#) (ACF) at the U.S. [Department of Health and Human Services](#) launched AHSSD, a brand new demonstration program. OCS awarded nearly \$2.1 million to nine grant recipients — eight CAAs and the Chickasaw Nation — across the country to strengthen and enhance the wraparound supportive services available to residents living in affordable housing communities. This funding will provide supportive services to affordable housing residents in Alaska, Arizona, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma, and Virginia. With this funding, grant recipients will increase their capacity to help families living in affordable housing access wraparound supportive services to improve their overall safety, stability, and economic mobility.