

# Kanza News January 2024



### Letter From the Chair

Hawè,

Happy New Year!! Can you believe it is already 2024? I hope everyone is enjoying the cold weather and staying warm. I know that I am ready for Spring. There have been a few things going on at Kaw Nation since the last newsletter. For Halloween we handed out candy for trick or treaters at the library, we had volunteers that dressed up and helped it was a little cold, but we all survived. Our Christmas party was a success, a big THANK YOU for all the volunteers and employees that helped get everything ready and set up. The gym is almost finished the bleachers are going in on the 30th of January. We should have some pictures of the gym in the next newsletter. The Title VI building and the Clinic both received new HVAC units purchased with ARPA funds. The construction will begin soon on the old bank building in Braman to house the Gaming Commission. We have another property that has been put into trust, the Lucas property in Braman. Tele-Behavioral health is coming to our Kanza Health Clinic, thanks to the Tribal Council passing the agreement we are excited to get that moving forward. The Tribal Council also decided to change the name of the Cultural Committee to the Powwow Committee. We will have a new committee that will be called the Cultural, Museum, and Language Committee. If anyone is interested in being on a committee or board please contact the Tribal Council Secretary Little Carol Clark, she can help you with any information that you need. Wishing you all blessings throughout the New Year.



Cimberly Jenkins

Kaw Nation Chair

#### Trick-or-Treaters Raid Admin Offices

On October 31st, the Kaw Nation Administration offices in Kaw City were transformed into a lively Halloween haven as Child Care Development's costumed trick-or-treaters paid a visit. Employees from various departments added to the festive spirit by donning costumes while generously filling the children's bags with a variety of candies and treats. The offices buzzed as the children paraded through, their costumes adding a vibrant touch to the Halloween atmosphere. The visit was a blast for both the children and administration employees, turning the routine work environment into a fun-filled Halloween spectacle.





#### Carving a Festive Face-Off

Kaw Nation recently hosted a spirited Pumpkin Contest, where various departments showcased their artistic prowess with clever pumpkin designs. The competition, judged by the number of Facebook likes on the Kaw Nation page, was quite the hit, as colleagues and community members rallied behind their favorite entries. This creative and engaging event not only brought a festive flair to the workplace but also strengthened the sense of community within Kaw Nation. The winners, determined by popular vote, enjoyed both recognition and bragging rights, marking the Pumpkin Contest as a standout and memorable celebration amonast the abundant Halloween celebrations.



Cheeseburger Pumpkin
Kanza Human Development Division



Stay Puff Marshmallow Man Reception & Front Offices



E.T. Title VI

#### KHDD Joins Goblins on Grand

The Kanza Human Development Division (KHDD) brought a wave of excitement to the annual Goblins on Grand Halloween Carnival in Ponca City. Sporting a vibrant booth, the KHDD Team didn't just hand out candy; they also took the opportunity to raise community awareness.

Goblins on Grand, a beloved Halloween tradition, offers families a safe and thrilling environment to celebrate the season. The KHDD Team added to the festivities,

engaging with the community and sharing information about their programs that contribute to educational and vocational growth.

This annual event in Ponca City provided the perfect backdrop for the KHDD Team to blend festive enjoyment with a mission to create awareness and support for their education and vocational assistance initiatives. Much fun was had as they look forward to attending future events.





#### **Johnson O'Malley Christmas Party**









On December 2nd, City Central in Ponca City buzzed with holiday spirit as KHDD hosted the Johnson O'Malley Christmas Party for JOM students and their families. The venue was transformed into a winter wonderland, featuring games for kids and a special visit from Santa Claus.

J.W. Cobbs catered a delicious dinner, treating guests to a delightful spread. The highlight of the night was the lively BINGO session, where families competed for gifts and essential supplies. This event was a great way to show support for KHDD's JOM students throughout the holiday season.

#### MASSIVE SHOWING AT THE 2023 KAW NATION Tribal Christmas Party

The spirit of Christmas echoed through the Johnnie Ray McCauley Center in Newkirk, Oklahoma, as the Kaw Nation Tribal Christmas Party unfolded on the morning of December 17, 2023. This annual event brought together Kaw Nation families in a heartwarming celebration that has long been an incredible community gathering. The gymnasium, adorned with festive decorations, was nearly bursting at the seams with the incredible turnout of Kaw Nation families. The sense of unity and togetherness was a delight to see.

One of the highlights of the evening was the amazing spread provided by Stagecoach BBQ, a local favorite. The delicious assortment added a flavorful touch to the festivities, making the Christmas party a true feast for the senses. Adding a cultural flair to the gathering, students from the Kaw Nation Language Program treated attendees to a Holiday performance in Kaá^ze Íe



the native language of the Kaw people. As the anticipation built, the children's eyes lit up with excitement when Santa Claus made a grand entrance. Each child had the opportunity to meet Santa and receive a carefully selected, age-relevant gift from Santa's helpers. The joyous moments shared between the children and Santa added a magical touch to the evening, creating memories



will be cherished for years to come.

The success of this year's Kaw Nation Tribal Christmas Party would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of everyone who helped. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who played a role in preparing and executing this memorable event. Their hard work and commitment ensured that Kaw Nation was able to come together for the holiday season. The 2023 Kaw Nation Tribal Christmas Party not only celebrated the spirit of Christmas but also strengthened the bonds within our community, fostering a sense of unity and pride that will undoubtedly endure throughout the coming year.





# Grinch Surprises Childcare Development Center

On December 21st, the children at Kaw Nation Childcare Development in Newkirk, Oklahoma, had a heartwarming surprise when the Grinch paid them a visit. Instead of his usual mischief, the Grinch handed out candy, delighting the kids and turning a potentially mischievous encounter into a festive moment filled with laughter and joy. The unexpected twist made for a memorable day as the Grinch, known for stealing gifts, chose to spread holiday cheer instead.



#### Kaw Nation Injury Prevention Enhances Protection Efforts



In a commendable effort to enhance child safety, the Kaw Nation Injury Prevention team recently organized a three-day car seat technician certification course. The course, nationally recognized for its comprehensive training, featured a blend of classroom sessions and hands-on field training. Participants in this impactful initiative included representatives from various Kaw Nation departments, as well as individuals from surrounding tribes. The diverse group of attendees brought together a wealth of knowledge and experience, contributing to the overall success of the program.

The certification course covered essential aspects of car seat safety, emphasizing both theoretical understanding and practical application. Classroom sessions delved into the intricacies of proper installation techniques, the latest safety standards, and the importance of ensuring child restraint systems meet regulatory requirements. Equally crucial was the in-field training component, where participants had the opportunity to apply their newly acquired knowledge in real-world scenarios. This hands-on experience is invaluable, ensuring that each participant is well-equipped to address diverse situations and provide

effective guidance on car seat safety.

By extending the invitation to representatives from neighboring tribes, the Kaw Nation demonstrated its commitment to fostering collaboration and sharing expertise in the broader community. On the concluding day of the course, Kaw Nation welcomed guardians and parents to have technicians examine their car seats, ensuring proper installation and compliance with specifications. Those in need were provided brand new car seats that meet the latest standards. As a result of this initiative, the Kaw Nation and participating tribes are now better prepared to promote and implement car seat safety measures, ultimately contributing to the well-being of children in their respective communities.

The success of the certification course is attributed to Kaw Nation's proactive stance on injury prevention and its dedication to creating a safer environment for future generations.



# LAND MANAGEMENT OFFERS FIRE WOOD TO TRIBAL CITIZENS

In a thoughtful initiative as part of the ongoing land beautification projects in Kaw City, the Kaw Nation Land Management Department, under the supervision of Colt Donelson, in collaboration with ARPA Director Suann Palmer, is making a significant impact by offering firewood to Kaw Nation Tribal Citizens. This proactive approach not only contributes to the beautification of Kaw land, but also ensures that tribal citizens have access to a valuable resource for warmth during the colder months. For Kaw Nation Tribal Citizens interested in benefiting from this program, contact Suann Palmer at 508.269.2552 to arrange a convenient time for receiving firewood.



#### Kaw Nation's Annual Health Fair Draws Crowds in Newkirk

On Friday, October 13th, the Johnnie McCauley Building in Newkirk, Oklahoma, was abuzz with excitement as the Kaw Nation's Annual Health Fair took place. The event, aimed at promoting health and well-being, saw an impressive turnout, making it a memorable day for both the Kaw Nation community and its neighbors.

The festivities kicked off with a Wellness Walk at 9 a.m., which witnessed an impressive turnout of participants, demonstrating the community's commitment to promoting a healthy lifestyle. The enthusiasm for the event was palpable, setting a positive tone for the day ahead.

Doors officially opened at 9:30 a.m., allowing attendees access to a treasure trove of educational information, free literature, and invaluable resources related to overall health and well-being. Upwards of 60 different vendors and providers lined the venue, each offering valuable insights and assistance to those looking to improve their health. There was an incredible showing of people from the community, with a substantial line forming at the entrance.



Participants had the opportunity to engage with experts in various fields, from nutrition and fitness to mental health and preventive care. This multifaceted approach to health education ensured that every attendee could find valuable information



and guidance tailored to their unique needs.

The event didn't stop at information alone; attendees were also treated to

sense of excitement and anticipation to the fair. Amidst all the learning and excitement, attendees also enjoyed a complimentary lunch. The combination of informative sessions, engaging activities, and a sense of community made this year's Kaw Nation Health Fair an event

raffle prizes, adding a

to remember.

The Kaw Nation's Annual Health Fair has continued to be a vital and growing

tradition, offering an invaluable service to the community by promoting health, wellness, and a sense of togetherness. Events like these play a crucial role in empowering individuals to take charge of their health and lead more fulfilling lives.

As we look back on the success of the 2023 Health Fair, it's clear that the Kaw Nation is committed to making a positive impact on the well-being of its members. With each passing year, the fair's popularity and influence continue to grow. This event is more than just a single-day event; it's a symbol of a community's dedication to a healthier, happier future. We look forward to seeing how this tradition will continue to evolve and positively impact the lives of those it serves.

#### **Heavy Equipment Course Certifies Kaw Nation Crews**

An interdepartmental heavy equipment training course was recently held on Kaw Nation grounds. Spearheaded by Human Resources Director, Joe Thompson in collaboration with certification instructor Eric Payne from Pioneer Technology Institute in Ponca City, Oklahoma, this training program aimed to equip Kaw Nation workers with the necessary skills to operate heavy equipment effectively. Employees form Land Management and Maintenance Departments engaged in hands-on training and theoretical sessions, gaining valuable insights and certifications regarding the operation of mini excavators, skid steers, backhoes, and tractors.

The coordination between Joe Thompson and Eric Payne ensured a comprehensive curriculum that covered not only the technical aspects of heavy equipment operation but also emphasized safety protocols and best practices. This approach aimed to empower the Kaw Nation workforce with a well-rounded skill set, preparing them for various tasks related to heavy equipment in their respective departments.









#### Self-Governance at a Glance

Hawé! Zaházhe wita che Cheryl Craig. I am your Self-Governance/Trust Director.

I thought it would be interesting to discover Self-Governance. Did you know that Kaw Nation is a Self-Governance (SG) Tribe? Have you ever wondered what that really means? Before I began working with Kaw Nation, I had little knowledge of what that meant. I will begin with a very brief history of how SG began.

Traditional tribal existence and economies were destroyed by the conquest of foreign nations. The past termination policies of the United States almost reduced tribal populations to extinction. Centuries old ways of life were destroyed, families were torn apart, native languages and religions were



forbidden. Tribes were forced to move from their homelands and start their lives over in distant regions of the U.S. Treaties diminish tribal land bases and vital natural resources in return for services and benefits.

To uphold those treaty obligations the U.S. government "managed" the affairs of tribal nations for many years. It proved to be detrimental to the native tribes; there was corruption, mismanagement, and theft. Tribal leaders were distraught by the plight forced upon their people. This brought about the Self-Governance movement, Many Tribal

leaders believed there was a better way of doing things. They believed they could do more with the funding allocated for their tribe than the federal government.

In 1975 Congress implemented Public Law 93-638 the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA). This created tremendous opportunities for tribal governments to access resources/funding to provide services to their people at the tribal level, instead of the government providing those services. Tribes that chose to enter SG were able to establish official tribal offices where they once may have been operating out of their homes and/or rental offices/buildings. The funding came to tribes through contracts.



While amendments to P.L. 93-638 were pending, in 1987 an article in the Arizona Republic Newspaper called "Fraud in Indian Country" alleged that there was waste and mismanagement within the federal bureaucracy. The Federal Department of the Interior (DOI) proposed that Indian program appropriated funds could be given to Tribes to manage.

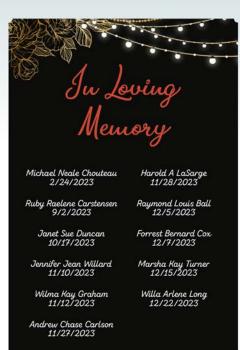
In 1988 the P.L 100-472 "Indian Self-Determination Amendments of 1987" was implemented. Tribal SG Demonstration Project, Title III (a 5-year pilot project) gave tribes the opportunity to govern themselves. The Self-Governance Communication and Education Office (SGCE) was formulated in 1989.

The SG Demonstration Projects began with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in 1990 and with Indian Health Service (IHS) in 1992. They became permanent under Public Law 103-431 "Indian Self-Determination Act Amendments of 1994".

The SG permanent legislation "Title IV" for DOI came in 1994 and "Title V" in 2000 for IHS. As tribes choose to enter Self-Governance the trust responsibility of the U.S.A. is never diminished. The United State continues to be under treaty obligations to provide services and benefits to tribal nations.

Self-Governance gives the tribe control and authority to redesign programs using their federal funding to tailor programs and services for their specific tribal needs. With Self-Governance, Tribes take the responsibility of design, management, and delivery of their programs from the federal government. They alone are responsible for their programs and must answer to their tribal members.

During the 1990s under the leadership of Chairwoman Wanda Stone and the Executive Council, Kaw Nation became Self-Governance within IHS in 1995 and within BIA in 1996.



Pictured below on January 9, 2023: Chair Kimberly Jenkins, Tribal Council Members Robert Allen, Cheri Dunn, Little Carol Clark, SG/Trust Director Cheryl Craig, Executive Secretary Ida Williams, KNED Director Emily Douglas, Mikayla Spears Tribal Employee/Member, BIA Acting Regional Director Gabe Morgan, BIA Realty Staff Katherine Stevens, Julie Anderson, and Jennifer Hill.









#### What's Trust All About?

Self-Governance has afforded Kaw Nation the opportunity to take over the Realty Program functions within BIA. This includes Leasing on tribal trust land and Fee-to-Trust.

Did you know that Kaw Nation has its own HEARTH/Leasing Act? Kaw Nation's Indian Land Leasing Act of 2013 was adopted by the Kaw Nation Tribal Council on October 19, 2013. The Secretary of Indian Affairs signed and approved Kaw's Leasing act on December 13, 2013. The Leasing Act gives Kaw Nation control over Business and Wind Leases on tribal trust land. The tribe no longer has to gain leasing approval for these type leases on their trust properties through the BIA.

Kaw Nation also develops and submits their own Fee-to-trust applications. Fee-to-Trust is a process in which tribes have the opportunity to convert their fee land to property held in trust for the benefit of the tribe by the United States of America. It is a very laborious process and can take several years to obtain approval. Placing land in trust is also required for Indian Gaming in Oklahoma. This is why gaming is permitted through the Office of Indian Gaming (OIG) for Kaw Nation's Rock and Brews Casino Braman.

You may ask yourself, what is the benefit of converting fee land to trust? Having tribal land held in trust eliminates the property from being under the jurisdiction of states and local governments. Land being under the jurisdiction of Kaw Nation means sovereignty, the tribe can exercise governmental control over their land. Tribal trust promotes self-sufficiency, preserves, and protects land and resources, reestablishes and/or expands the tribal trust land base, promotes social and economic development.

Currently, Kaw Nation owns 1,317.76 acres in trust status; plus 167 acres in joint trust ownership of the Chilocco Campus. The most recent properties put in trust in 2023 are Kaw Nation's Battle & Lucas Properties near Braman and Furguson Property near Kaw City.

Two deed signing ceremonies were held during 2023. The first was held on January 9, 2023, for the Battle & Furguson properties and the second was held for the Lucas property on December 7, 2023. Representatives attended from both Kaw Nation & BIA.

Wíblaha,

Pictured below on December 7, 2023: Chair Kimberly Jenkins, Tribal Council Members Robert Allen, Cheri Dunn, Little Carol Clark, SG/Trust Director Cheryl Craig, Executive Secretary Ida Williams, BIA Acting Regional Director Julie Anderson, and BIA Realty Staff Jennifer Hill.







#### **New Hires**

Larry Payne – Clinic Janitor; 10/2/2023

Eric Coble – KHDD Community Outreach Specialist; 10/2/2023

Wendy Vaughn-Bryer – Patient Benefits/PRC Coordinator; 10/9/2023

Beth Reynolds - Floater; 10/10/2023

Sheila Grayson – School Age Coordinator; 10/10/2023

Cecelia Ward – JOM Coordinator; 10/11/2023

Devan Shahan – LPN/Medical Assistant; 10/30/2023

Marla Scott – JOM Specialist; 10/30/2023 Daryle Aragon – Gaming Commissioner; 12/4/2023

Amanda Pattison – Community LPN; 12/11/2023

Dakota Ward - Daycare Teacher; 12/18/2023

Kaylee Williams – SG/Trust Administrative Assistant; 1/2/2024

Timothy Scott Taylor – Background Investigator/Police Officer; 1/8/2024

Danny Chouteau – Emergency Manager; 1/8/2024

Cherisse Ingram – Elder Abuse Prevention Coordinator; 1/17/2024

Dana Gibson – Daycare Teacher; 1/18/2024

Explore current job opportunities with Kaw Nation at KawNation.gov/careers.

#### Language Department Collaborates for Mini Powwows

In the month of November, the Kaw Nation Language Department, in collaboration with the Kanza Human Development Division, orchestrated mini powwows at Shidler and Newkirk high schools. These events were coordinated to offer both entertainment and education to the gathered assemblies. The highlights of these mini powwows included captivating drum and dance exhibitions. Students and attendees at Shidler and Newkirk high schools were treated to a unique experience where they could witness the vibrant traditions of the Kanza Culture come to life.

During the latter part of each gathering, participants were not merely spectators; they were given the unique opportunity to join in on the dancing, adding an immersive component to the experience. Beyond the entertainment and excitement of these mini powwows, they also play a significant role in education. Local students had the chance to delve into the intricacies of Kanza Culture, learning about regalia and the significance of drum and dance in the tribal heritage. Through entertainment, education, and active participation, these mini powwows are always well-recieved as a method of fostering a deeper connection between local students the cultural heritage of the Kaw Nation.





#### Kaw Nation Veterans Ruck Brings Awareness

The Kaw Nation Language Department and KHDD co-hosted a groundbreaking Suicide Awareness Veterans Ruck event, honoring servicemen and women with flag-raising and soulful performances. Osage Nation Chief of Police Nick Williams stressed the event's impact on tribal youth, emphasizing mental health awareness. The symbolic ruck symbolized veterans' challenges, followed by a communal breakfast fostering connections. Event organizers expressed gratitude to veterans and encouraged engagement in future initiatives. Nick Williams highlighted the event's profound significance, focusing on mental health in the community, while the communal breakfast allowed attendees to share experiences and connect. The organizers conveyed heartfelt appreciation for veterans and active military personnel, emphasizing the importance of community support and awareness in addressing challenges and promoting overall well-being.

### WINTER PRECAUTIONS FROM KNEM



As the winter season sets in, it's crucial to take necessary precautions to safeguard your home, car, and personal well-being from the challenges posed by cold weather. From frozen pipes to icy roads, being prepared can save you from potential headaches and hazards. In this article, we will explore essential tips and precautions to help you navigate the winter months with confidence.

#### **Protecting Your Home:**

- Insulate pipes: Prevent frozen pipes by insulating them with pipe sleeves or heat tape. Pay extra attention to pipes in unheated areas like basements, attics, and crawl spaces.
- Maintain consistent temperature: Keep your thermostat set to a consistent temperature, even when you're away. This helps prevent drastic temperature drops that can lead to frozen pipes.
- Allow faucets to drip: During extremely cold temperatures, allowing faucets to drip can relieve pressure in the pipes and prevent them from freezing.

#### **Snow and Ice Precautions:**

- Clear walkways and driveways: Regularly shovel snow and remove ice from walkways, driveways, and stairs to prevent slips and falls.
- Use salt or sand: Apply salt or sand on icy surfaces to improve traction and reduce the risk of accidents.
- Roof maintenance: Remove snow from your roof to prevent ice dams, which can lead to water leaks and damage.

#### **Protecting Your Car:**

- Park in a garage or use a cover: If possible, park your car in a garage to shield it from snow and ice. If a garage is not available, use a car cover to protect it.
- Windshield cover: Use a windshield cover to prevent ice buildup on your windshield, saving you time and effort in the morning.
   Antifreeze and coolant: Ensure your car's radiator has an adequate amount of antifreeze solution and that the coolant is at the proper level to prevent freezing.
- Block heater or engine heater: Consider using a block heater or engine heater to keep your car's engine warm and prevent freezing.
- Fuel additive: Use a fuel additive designed to prevent fuel lines from freezing.
- Maintain fuel level: Keep your gas tank at least half full to minimize condensation in the fuel lines, reducing the risk of freezing

#### **Personal Safety:**

- Dress warmly and in layers: Wear appropriate winter clothing, including hats, gloves, scarves, and insulated boots. Layering helps trap heat and provides better insulation
- Protect exposed skin: Cover exposed skin to prevent frostbite, especially in extremely cold temperatures.
- Carry an emergency kit: Keep an emergency kit in your car with essentials like blankets, a flashlight, extra batteries, and non-perishable snacks in case of a breakdown or getting stranded.
- Be cautious of slippery surfaces: Watch out for icy patches and use proper footwear with good traction to avoid falls.

By taking these precautions, you can protect your home, car, and yourself from the challenges posed by cold weather. Remember to insulate pipes, clear snow and ice, maintain your car, and dress appropriately for the weather. Stay safe and enjoy the winter season with peace of mind.

#### KAW NATION BEGINS PRINCESS APPLICATION PROCESS

The Kaw Nation is pleased to announce the commencement of the application process for the esteemed position of 2024 Kaw Nation Princess. If you are interested in applying for this prestigious role, we

invite you to visit our official

website at: kawnation.gov/princess-application

for detailed information and to submit your application. We look forward to receiving your applications and discovering the next Kaw Nation Princess!

The Kaw Nation Princess Sorority is creating a mailing list of past princesses. If you or a family member held this title, please contact Tribal Secretary Carol Clark at 508.269.2552 or

trbsecretary@kawnation.gov to be included. Your participation is crucial in

maintaining our community ties and preserving our shared heritage.





#### KAW NATION BOARD AND COMMITTEE POSITIONS AVAILABLE: EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES AND APPLY TODAY

Kaw Nation is currently welcoming applications for positions on various boards and committees, offering an opportunity for individuals to actively contribute to our community's growth and development. Your participation is crucial in shaping the future of the Kaw Nation, and we look forward to receiving your applications. If you are interested in learning more about each board or committee's responsibilities and would like to apply, please visit our official website at:

kawnation.gov/boards-and-committees



# Bound by Friendship, Forged in Resilience: Kaw Citizens Embark on Marines Career

The Kaw Nation takes great pride in extending heartfelt congratulations to Wrangler Collyar and Josiah Owen, esteemed members of our tribal community. These two remarkable individuals, who share a special bond as childhood friends, recently achieved a significant milestone by successfully completing Marines boot camp in San Diego, California.

As Wrangler and Keegan step into this new phase of their lives, we proudly stand beside them, honoring a longstanding tradition of Kaw participation in the military. Their accomplishments reflect the collective strength and character of the Kaw Veterans nationwide.

We look forward with great anticipation to witnessing the continued success and growth of Wrangler Collyar and Keegan Owen. May their futures be filled with prosperity, fulfillment, and the realization of all their aspirations!

## Nurturing Growth: From Garden Center to Director of KHDD

Amanda Wamego, recently appointed as the Director of the Kanza Human Development Division (KHDD), has a rich history with the Kaw Nation that dates back to her early years. At the age of 16, Amanda began her journey with the tribe, working at the Garden Center in Washunga Bay. Following a couple of seasons at the garden center, she became an integral part of the staff during the formative days of the Kanza Wellness Center in Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Amanda's professional trajectory continued to evolve as she honed her skills and expanded her impact within the Kaw Nation. Over the next decade, she served as a grant writer, contributing significantly to the tribe's initiatives. In recent years, Amanda extended her expertise to Osage Nation, working on grant projects. However, her deep connection with the Kaw Nation community and a desire to give back led her to return to her roots.

Motivated by a passion for the well-being of Kaw Nation youth, including her own daughter, whom she has seen grow within the community, Amanda brings a wealth of experience to her role as the Director of KHDD. Her focus extends to enhancing and expanding the division's resources and federally funded programs, specifically designed to support K-12 students and those pursuing higher education at colleges, universities, and vocational programs.

Amanda envisions creating a nurturing and inclusive environment for Tribal Citizens, fostering scholastic and professional development. She extends a warm invitation for individuals to reach out or visit the KHDD offices in City Central, Ponca City, as she endeavors to facilitate the continued growth and success of the community.





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