



Cherokee Nation Gadugi Corps Community Leadership Fund



Purpose: Strengthen your community, participate in your community, and lead in your community!
Cherokees helping Cherokees!

Overview: Cherokee Nation students 10-17 can volunteer on the Cherokee Nation Reservation, helping their fellow Cherokees and their communities. We encourage you to have in mind the spirit of Gadugi, working together, when you choose how you volunteer. Cherokee Nation citizens 18-61 can also participate if they provide proof of CURRENT enrollment in school or CURRENT enrollment in career training. Cherokee Nation citizens 62 and older, are encouraged to participate as well with no school or career training required.

(20 hours of volunteering = \$200.00, more importantly, the reward of working together, bettering the lives of fellow Cherokees and their communities)

OR

(10 hours of volunteering + complete included cultural collection template)

- All age groups must fill out application fully
- Must be a Cherokee Nation citizen and provide their Cherokee Nation citizenship number
- You can only participate once per fiscal year (October 1-September 30)
- To ensure payment, applications need to be in our hands by September 23
- All volunteer hours must be done within the Cherokee Nation's Reservation and provide address of the volunteer site
- Hours cannot be counted if done at a for profit business
- **Applications at this time will only be accepted in the following ways:**
 1. Hand deliver to: 18915 466 Rd., Tahlequah
 2. Scan and email to: gadugicorps@cherokee.org
 3. Mail to: Attn Gadugi Corps P.O. Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465

THIS APPLICATION IS GOOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 2025 THRU SEPTEMBER 23, 2026.
The application will update every year, offering various projects and ways to earn hours.



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**Cherokee Nation Gadugi Corps Community Leadership Fund
Individual Application (Please fill out application completely)**

Applicant Name :		Youth	Citizenship No#	
		Elder		
Date of Birth:	Age:	Gender:	Male	Female
Mailing Address:				
Physical Address:				
Country:		Phone #1:		
Email Address:		Phone #2:		

Have you received assistance on this program, or through the Community Leadership Funds in the past?:	Yes:	No:
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All eligible applicants who wish to participate in the Cherokee Nation Gadugi Corps Community Leadership Funds MUST SIGN this document

I _____, have read and understand the application process in its entirety, or the application was read to me and I have completed it accurately to the best of my knowledge. I understand all additional documentation required for the submission of any application to the Gadugi Corps Leadership Fund Program and that submission of any application is not guaranteed of funds approval.

Signature of Applicant

Date

If the applicant is under the age of 18 a parent or legal guardian must also read and sign this document.

I _____, the parent/legal guardian of the above applicant have read and understand the application process in its entirety, or the application was read to me and I have completed it accurately to the best of my knowledge. I understand all additional documentation required for the submission of any application to the Gadugi Corps Leadership Fund Program and that submission of any application is not guaranteed of funds approval.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Office Use Only:	Walk-In:	Email:	Mail-In:	Date Received:	Received By:
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Cherokee Nation Gadugi Corps Community Leadership Fund Community Service Verification Form

Revised 10/2025

Verification of community service is required

Applicant's Name: _____

Please fill out one section for each day worked. More than one "Community Service Verification Form" may be submitted if needed.

Parents DO NOT sign the volunteer form.

Volunteer Date: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Must be on the Cherokee Nation Reservation

Worksite Name & Address: _____

Type of Service Performed: _____

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Volunteer Date: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Must be on the Cherokee Nation Reservation

Worksite Name & Address: _____

Type of Service Performed: _____

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Volunteer Date: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Must be on the Cherokee Nation Reservation

Worksite Name & Address: _____

Type of Service Performed: _____

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Volunteer Date: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Must be on the Cherokee Nation Reservation

Worksite Name & Address: _____

Type of Service Performed: _____

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Volunteer Date: _____

Hours Worked: _____

Must be on the Cherokee Nation Reservation

Worksite Name & Address: _____

Type of Service Performed: _____

Signature of Contact Person (Supervisor)

Contact Phone Number

Total Hours Worked: _____

Revised 10/2025

For questions about Cherokee Nation Gadugi Corps Community Leadership Fund, contact 918-453-5745 or 918-453-5982 or email us at gadugicorps@cherokee.org



GWA'DA'DI
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**Cherokee Elder
Culture Collection**



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Cherokee Elder Culture Collection

Filling the following template lines completely will count for 10 hours of volunteer service.

You must fill all of the provided lines.

Ages 62+: Complete questionnaire below. If you need assistance filling out the form, we encourage you to have family, friends, or a volunteer assist you.

Ages 10-61: Interview Cherokee elder and complete template using their information.

You may interview Cherokee elders that do not live within the Cherokee Nation Reservation, but all volunteer service hours must be completed within the Cherokee Nation Reservation.

Ages 10-61 AND ages 62+ MUST submit their own SEPARATE completed application and template/questionnaire if they choose to participate in the Cherokee Elder Culture Collection option.

NAME OF CHEROKEE ELDER: _____

DAILY LIFE AND FAMILY:

1. Where were you raised? _____

2. Describe this place: _____

3. What was a typical day like for you as a child? _____



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4. What kinds of chores or responsibilities did you have growing up?

5. Who growing up instilled Cherokee values, Cherokee culture, Cherokee traditions, Cherokee Language and Cherokee history the most in you? Describe the ways they were able to do this.

6. Did you play cultural games as a child? If so describe. If not, what games or activities did you enjoy? Tell us about them.

7. Was the Cherokee language spoken in your childhood home? Do you speak Cherokee? _____



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8. If yes on #7, describe how life outside of your Cherokee home was for you language wise.

9. If not, describe your first introduction to the Cherokee language. (who, where, when, etc.)

10. As an elder, tell us why you think we should do everything we can as a nation to secure that our language is taught, spoken and sustained.

11. What kinds of foods did you eat growing up?

12. Did your family hunt, fish, or grow their own food? Describe a memory about these activities.



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13. Was cultural food a part of your childhood? _____ if yes, please describe what cultural foods and a memory revolving around the cooking, gathering, etc, of the cultural foods. If cultural food was not a part of your childhood, tell us your first memory of having it.

14. Please share an easy recipe either cultural or otherwise that you were taught that others may be able to try and enjoy.

15. Share a story that your family has enjoyed telling for years. This story can be personal, or just a story that has been repeated often in your family.



Cherokee Elder Culture Collection

16. We want some advice from YOU. Share your thoughts on how you believe we can all be better people. The do's and donts of life that you would like to share with fellow Cherokees. We look to you for your wisdom on all things. This answer is all about sharing that wisdom.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of six horizontal lines arranged vertically, with a slight upward slope from left to right.

Cherokee Nation Gadugi Corps intends on putting together a collection of these Cherokee elders' answers. Please let us know if you would allow us to use your name in a future publication by choosing yes or no and signing.

(If you are interviewing an elder, be sure they choose an option and sign).

Yes

No