



GWY.A DBP

CHEROKEE NATION®

CAREER SERVICES J.O.B.S.

Jobs, Opportunities, Benefits, and Services

Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Common Program Challenges Around Benefits Structure

- Welcome and Introductions
- Oklahoma:
 - 38 Federally Recognized Tribes
 - 3 have Tribal TANF Programs
 - Cherokee Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation & Osage Nation
 - 3 Programs cover 20 of the 77 counties in OK.

TANF Benefit Pro's

- Assistance to allow Native Children to be cared for in their family homes and strengthen their families
 - Cash Assistance
 - Support Services
 - Incentives
 - Moral Support/Cheerleaders
 - Referrals, ex: counseling, treatment, food
 - Other

TANF Benefit Challenges – Cash Assistance

- Is the amount sufficient?
 - Compared to a minimum wage job
- Will the participant complete requirements to receive monthly assistance
 - Will they receive it in timely manner
 - Will they receive full amount eligible for

- Other

Cherokee Nation Tribal TANF Additional Benefits

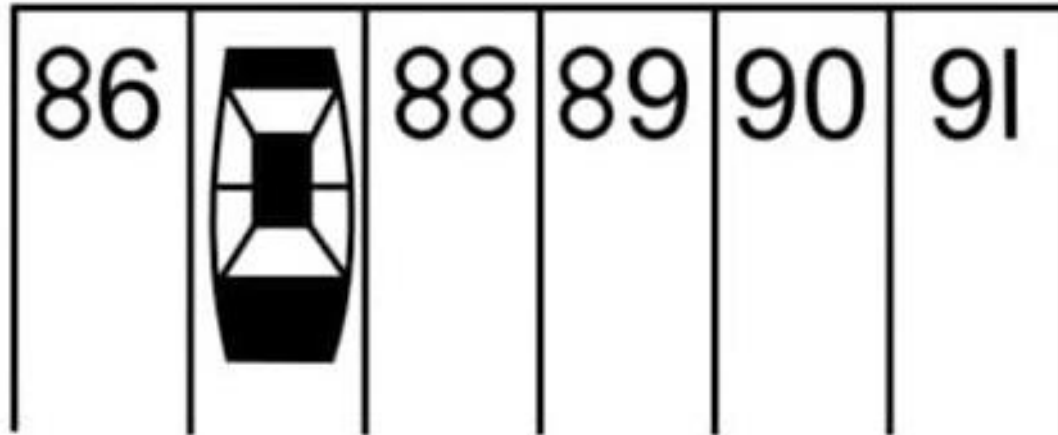
- Incentives for Adults
 - Educational, Work Participation, 2-Parent Relationship Session
- Work Participation
 - \$50 per week - Education, volunteer, self-employed, subsidized employment (OJT, WE, etc.), misc. activities
 - \$100 per week – unsubsidized employment
- Yearly increase to cash assistance payment
- Non-recurring short-term benefits
- Other

Creative Thinking

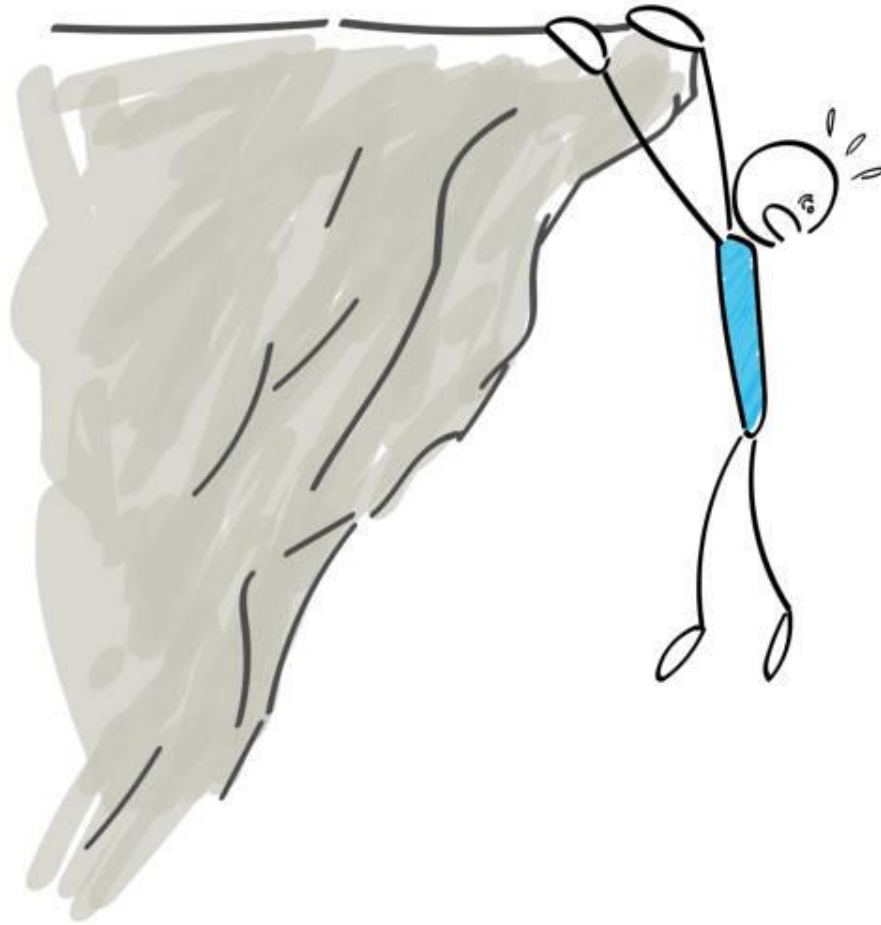
What is the car's parking spot number?



Creative Thinking



Cliff Hanging



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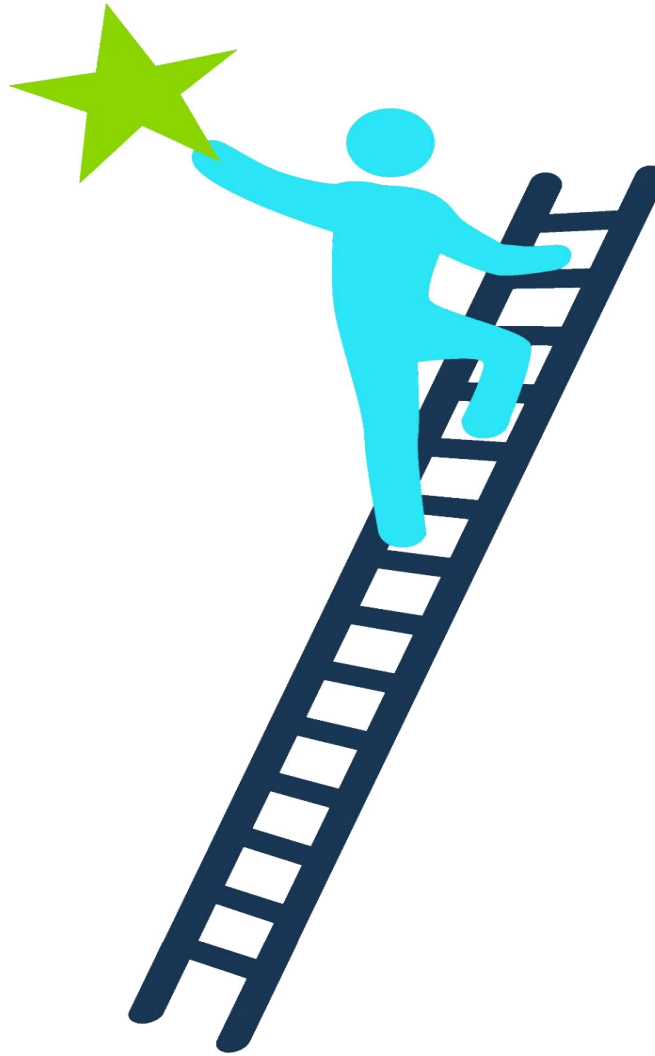
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Benefits Cliff

➤ Benefits Cliff Gap

- Earn too much income to receive other assistance
 - Child Care, LIHEAP, SNAP, Commodities
- Or these assistance amounts are reduced
- Most times it comes on suddenly
- Can and does affect participants' ability to become self-sufficient
- ARPA benefits ended
- Other

Reaching for a Star



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Closing the Gap

- Cherokee Nation Tribal TANF
 - Suspension – countable income exceeds payment standard
 - Up to three (3) consecutive months
 - Eligible for all services except monthly cash assistance
 - Transition – countable earned income exceeds payment standard
 - Up to three (3) consecutive months following suspension
 - Eligible for all services except monthly cash assistance

Closing the Gap (cont'd)

- Transition Cont'd
 - Career Specialist begins exit counseling at the start of transition: intense budget counseling, savings review, other resources
 - Assessments required
 - Final Exit Interview for final review and referrals as needed/requested
 - Transition Incentive: \$2,500

Closing the Gap (cont'd)

- Continue to be a moral support
- Other Ideas

Questions?



Creative Thinking Helps

One Electrician and a doctor
went to watch a movie.

One of them is the father of
the other's son.

How could this be possible?



Answer

Because they are
husband and wife.

Have a Great Day!



Contact

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