

Stacy Shepherd
Executive Officer of Member Services
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Stacy Shepherd serves the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma as the Executive Officer of Member Services. She is focused on providing opportunities for growth and prosperity for tribal members.

Stacy's previous roles with the Choctaw Nation include Academic Employment Specialist in the Career Development department and the revitalization of the Chahta Foundation, a 501(c)3 Nonprofit that supports Tribal Members in reaching their full potential through scholarships, wellness, and tradition.

Stacy is the great granddaughter of Joseph H. Goforth, a Chickasaw who earned his law degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law in 1900 and became the first Native American judge in Indian Territory. She is the granddaughter of Jesse Goforth Clark, a Choctaw woman who attended Oklahoma Presbyterian College (OPC), and the daughter of former Choctaw Nation Executive Director of Education, Joy Culbreath.

This legacy of education instilled in Stacy a love for teaching and learning. In 1980, Stacy graduated from Southeastern Oklahoma State University (SOSU) with a BS in English and Elementary Education and a Masters in Secondary School Administration in 1987. Stacy represented Durant ISD as a top 12 finalist for Oklahoma Teacher of the Year in 2000 (Runner Up) and in 2010. She completed her teaching career after 30 years in Oklahoma Public Education.

One of Stacy's greatest achievements was allowing students to explore the teaching profession through the Teacher Cadet program, mentoring a future teacher through college, and coaching a former student as a first-year colleague. As a Choctaw tribal member, Stacy was afforded the opportunity to facilitate the Choctaw Language at Durant High School where she studied alongside her students and has completed 18 hours of Choctaw Language at SOSU. Stacy was awarded the SOSU Distinguished Alumni Award in October 2022 for her remarkable accomplishments in both her educational and professional pursuits.

As Executive Officer, Stacy is focused on providing opportunities for growth and prosperity for tribal members in the departments of Housing, Education, Culture, Outreach, and Special Services, as well as preserving the Choctaw Language. Stacy serves on the Board of Directors with the Chahta Foundation and Jones Academy.