



Kathleen Wooden Knife is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and resides in the Soldier Creek Community which is located east of Mission, SD. Kathleen worked for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe (RST) and the Indian Health Service (IHS). Her experiences working for the RST and IHS have provided her with valuable insight into the efficiencies and deficiencies of each system. Kathleen decided to utilize her experience by serving the membership of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in a leadership capacity, and soon she was elected and continues to serve as the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Council Representative for the Soldier Creek Community.

In addition to serving in an elected official capacity, Kathleen has worked extensively in her aspirations to improve the quality of life on the Rosebud Reservation serving as a volunteer. For example, Kathleen played a critical role in the founding and the ongoing organizational efforts of a pet clinic on the Rosebud Reservation. Kathleen has also played a major part in founding the Rosebud Sioux Tribe Homeless Shelter where she continues to advocate for the reservation's homeless population.

Kathleen's understanding of the needs of her community continues to grow as rapidly as her desire to advocate for continued awareness of the federal government's trust responsibility and fulfillment of its treaty obligations. Her time serving on the Rosebud Sioux Tribe's Health Board provides her with valuable insight into the health disparities facing members of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, and she witnesses the unmet need of the Indian Health Service on a daily basis.