



CHEROKEE NATION

P.O. Box 948 • Tahlequah, Okla. 74465-0948
(918) 456-0671

Wilma P. Mankiller
Principal Chief

John Ketcher
Deputy Chief

July 27, 1993

Doris J. Raper
P.O. Box 482
Kansas, Oklahoma 74347

Dear Ms. Raper,

Thank you for inquiring about my health. I am doing better. I have been working at home but expect to return to my office next Monday.

With regard to your request for assistance. There really isn't much we can do about the income guidelines. When Congress appropriates funds for assistance programs they usually establish income guidelines. It is really maddening that people like you, who work very hard for a living, are unable to get help when you just need it once in a while. But those are the rules we have to live with.

Regarding your question about loan programs, there are some tribal loan programs handled through the Cherokee Nation. I will ask this office to forward information about the loan programs to you.

On your question of taking an extra job, I simply would not do it. You are already working long hours, have to be both mother and father to your children and they need you. I believe that love, attention and time spent with children is far more important than any extra things you may be able to buy them. If I had to do anything over again, I would spend more time with my children. They are now grown and have children of their own. It seems like I had them for such a little amount of time.

Can you get into low-income housing of some kind? Or get assistance with food through either donated foods or food stamps? If you are interested in pursuing any of these avenues, let me know and I will get someone to collect information for you to determine eligibility.