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# Quality of Life (QOL) Committee

FY 2019 1st Quarter Report (October – December 2019)

## **PURPOSE**

The Quality of Life Committee is a standing committee of the Oneida Business Committee that has oversight responsibility of the following areas of the Tribe: Language and Culture, Health, Human Services and Public Safety. This oversight responsibility also extends to any board, committee, or commission related to these specific areas.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Councilman Brandon Stevens, Quality of Life Committee Chair  
Councilman Ernest Stevens III, Quality of Life Committee Vice Chair  
Councilman Daniel Guzman-King, Quality of Life Committee Member  
Councilman Kirby Metoxen, Quality of Life Committee Member  
Councilman Tehassi Hill, Quality of Life Committee Member

Other partners include: Wellness Council, Oneida Police Department, Division Directors, other senior leaders and their staff.

## **MEETINGS**

Quality of Life Committee meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month starting at 8:30 a.m. Meetings in the 1st quarter were held in October, November, and December.

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## *ACTIVITIES SUMMARY*

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### **NEW AGENDA ITEMS THIS QUARTER**

This quarter the Quality of Life Committee considered six new items:

#### **1. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Wisconsin (BBBS of NEW)**

The Quality of Life Committee (QOL) met with representatives from BBBS of NEW and the GSD Director on a memorandum of understanding (MOU) which would form a partnership between the BBBS of NEW and the Oneida Nation. The purpose of the MOU is “to mutually support access to Oneida Nation resources and share demographic information regarding those Oneida members participating in the BBBS of NEW program.”

The proposed MOU includes:

- BBBS of NEW Responsibilities:

- Provide a BBBS contact person for the Oneida Nation which will be the GSD Director.
- Maintain ongoing communication with Oneida Nation program staff.
- Oversee operational activities including screening, matching, support and supervision and closure procedures.
- Coordinate recruitment activities within the Oneida Nation community.
- Communicate to BBBS participants the activities, events and resources available to them within the Oneida Community (schedule of events).
- Provide a semi-annual report on the following demographic information:
  - # of Oneida children participating in the program (matched vs waiting list).
  - Age and gender of participating Oneida children (matched vs waiting list).
  - School of participating Oneida children.
  - # of Oneida volunteers (“Bigs”) participating in the program.
- Oneida Nation Responsibilities:
  - Provide an Oneida Nation contact person for BBBS.
  - Assist BBBS in the coordination of volunteer recruitment opportunities within the Oneida community.
  - Communicate monthly to BBBS those Oneida community activities, events and resources available to BBBS participants (schedule of events).
  - Help coordinate culturally relevant education sessions for BBBS staff or participants at locations to be determined.
  - Maintain ongoing communication with BBBS.
  - Cooperate fully with BBBS staff and volunteers.

The MOU has had a legal review and has been submitted to the Business Committee for consideration at the February 27, 2019 BC meeting.

## **2. 7G Youth Sports Initiative**

In December, the QOL Committee met with a representative of the 7G Youth Initiative. This initiative is focused on ways to help more Native American athletes get into college and to help them be more successful.

Plans for a focus group to gather input on needs will be finalized soon. Once feedback is gathered from coaches and parents, the next steps will be to develop a plan with timelines and deliverables for working with the 7G Youth Sports Initiative and to bring back to the QOL for consideration.

## **3. SOP for Employee Donations through Payroll**

A request for a SOP for employee donations through payroll was received and sent to a BC Work Session for further discussion. A survey of employees was also requested and this item was removed from the QOL agenda but remains on the BC Work Session agenda.

## **4. Zero Suicide**

An update was given to the QOL on the purpose of a Zero Suicide Team that is working on suicide prevention in Oneida. Quarterly reports will now be given at QOL meetings on the Team’s progress towards zero suicide.

## **5. Mental Health Checkups**

A request was received for an avenue for mental health checkups for employees. The QOL deferred the request to the Wellness Council to work with Risk Management and other necessary departments to develop a mental health checkup that can be incentivized through the HRA/RAS point system. The next step is for a report to be given at the March QOL meeting.

## **6. Environmental Issues**

The QOL discussed the history of treatment as a state and DICAs as it relates to Oneida water and air. The next step is for a report to be given at the March QOL meeting.

### **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS THIS QUARTER**

#### **1. Tribal Action Plan (TAP)**

A core group of the Tribal Action Plan (TAP) team, has been working on a transitional plan and next steps for the Tribal Action Plan Team composition and reporting structure moving forward. A sub-team has been looking at legislation that may be needed for TAP related initiatives. Work continued through the LOC on a Wellness Court and in December a curfew law was added to the LOC's Active Files List.

#### **2. Oneida Wellness Council**

The Oneida Wellness Committee representative provided updates to the QOL on the progress of their goals for the Wellness Step by Step Challenge for employees and the Community Challenge. Their goals of implementing a flex-time policy for health activities and engaging the workforce have been completed.

### **REQUESTED ACTION:**

Motion to accept the Quality of Life Committee FY2019 1st Quarter Report.