

Barbara Braided Hair



Barbara Braided Hair is an enrolled member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and resides with her family on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Barbara was raised by her maternal grandmother, Grace Strange Owl, in a small village named Birney on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. She was blessed to learn the language fluently, as well as, the customs and traditions. This way of life has been passed down to her children and now her grandchildren.

Barbara has worked in various capacities for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe such as Juvenile/Arraignment Judge and the Payroll Specialist. Barbara has been the Branch Manager of the Lame Deer First Interstate Bank since 1999. She currently serves as the board chairman for the People's Partners for Community Development, which provides financial literacy education to community members and small business development through small loans, Individual Development

Accounts and tax preparation assistance. A board member of the Cheyenne Children Services, which is a direct services program for low to moderate income families through donations of children's winter coats, diapers, infant formula and school supplies, a member of the Hopa Mountain Board which is based out of Bozeman, Montana, a member of the Leadership Montana Governance Board, a board member of the State of Montana Governor's Commission on Community Service and a Montana Ambassador. She also is a member of the Community Emergency Response Team Fire Corp, Advisory to the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, Inc., a partner to the Boys & Girls Club of the NC Nation, and Northern Cheyenne Housing Authority on Homebuyer Education.

Barbara has been involved in a cultural collaborative involving students from the Northern Cheyenne Reservation for the past 6 years. This partnership has drawn the interest of a group of medical experts/ doctors from the Akron, Ohio area to assist in the medical care issues on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Barbara is also involved with other collaborative issues dealing with health, housing, and cultural practices. Barbara is married to Otto, Jr., has 3 children, Vanessa, Jessica (Lawrence) and Otto III (Amber) and is the proud grandmother of Brave Bull Spang.