

TRIBAL WOMEN VETERANS SUMMIT

THURSDAY
NOV 3, 2022

The MCN Veterans Affairs Service Office (VASO) partnered with several agencies to host a **Tribal Women Veterans Summit**. Oklahoma staff of the US Department of Veterans Affairs have been holding an annual Summit since 2019, but canceled in 2020, due to Covid-19. Grover Wind, MCN VASO director, and Rachel Riddle helped organize the 2022 Summit, held at River Spirit.

Attendees and guest heard a variety of panel guests and presenters. Topics included: VA benefits and services for women veterans facing PTSD, sexual trauma, and other issues experienced before, during and after their military service. Several panel discussions included first-hand accounts from women veterans who experienced

sexual assault during their military duty, which was often made worse by military inaction or processes.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker William Lowe, a Marine Corps veteran and father of a daughter serving in the US Army, made closing remarks. Mr. Lowe thanked the various staff members for their efforts to elevate the status of women veterans and women currently serving in the US military. He also thanked the VA health professionals for the counseling, mentoring and care they provide to women veterans who have experienced PTSD, sexual or mental abuse from military personnel, and for the information they disseminate, on current VA programs and services.













