

# ICTC **Bright Spot** on the Oklahoma horizon

Indian Capital Technology Center

Muskogee Sallisaw Stilwell Tahlequah



Jerry Belton, director of Indian Capital Technology Center - Muskogee campus, received the Outstanding Leadership Award for the Northeast Region on April 2 at the Oklahoma Career and Technical Education Equity Council's "Making It Work Day at the Capitol."

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Kermit McMurry, Oklahoma Department of Human Services Director Howard Hendrick, CareerTech Associate State Director Brady McCullough, and CTEEC President Sheila Long assisted with the presentation of awards at a ceremony held in the State Capitol Blue Room.

"Making It Work Day" recognizes outstanding Oklahoma students, professional educators, business, industry and community partners for their dedication, service and commitment to helping families in poverty.

Belton was nominated for the award because of his dedication and service to Focus program students at ICTC.

Focus is a training program within ICTC working to educate and train displaced workers. Students come to the program through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and meet with Focus advisers to decide the best career path for their future.

Belton mentors students one-on-one and in a group setting. According to Sandra Girdner, Focus coordinator at ICTC, Belton has directly helped students be able to complete training and reach their goals despite their personal barriers.

"Mr. Belton has always treated our students professionally and with respect," Girdner said. "Instead of giving up on them as others might have, he gives these students the opportunity to learn from their mistakes, make amends and continue their education so they can meet their goals."