

making **life** better

one individual at a time



Cheryl Bruce

"I was disabled from working a regular job after having a stroke. I have come a long way since that stroke. Doctors said that I would never be able to be productive again. But, with the **help** of the good Lord and the CLIVR program, I am on my way to being **independent**." Cheryl Bruce

In 1994, Cheryl Bruce, a member of the Four Winds Tribe, Louisiana Cherokee Confederacy, had a stroke. Up until this time, she had worked in the field of accounting and now the doctors were telling her that she would never be productive again. However, Cheryl, who had always led a very active life, refused to accept that diagnosis. With encouragement

from her husband Pete, a traffic engineer with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, her three children and 12 grandchildren, she filed an application for vocational **rehabilitation** services with the Central Louisiana Intertribal VR Program. Under the guidance of Joe Kelley, Director of the Program and VR Counselor, Cheryl enrolled in the Colorado Academy of Silversmithing and Art Metal in Boulder, Colorado. Upon successful completion of this course, she enrolled in the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, Georgia, which she also mastered. Cheryl was now trained in an art that American Indians are famous for. Cheryl now operates her own business,

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"Yo-na Expressions" in
Alexandria, Louisiana.



Rhodochrosite Cabochon

Sleeping Beauty
Turquoise Bracelet



central louisiana **intertribal** program

louisiana