

Mrs. Joyce Brewington Locklear



Mrs. Joyce Brewington Locklear, of Clinton, North Carolina, is a member of the Coharie Indian Tribe. She is married to the late George Willard Locklear of Robeson County and has three daughters, two sons, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Locklear has served as the Title VII Home/School Coordinator with Sampson County Schools for the past 35 years where she has worked with Indian Education for the Native American students. In this capacity, she has taught arts and crafts classes, Native American dancing, and has provided educational trips for her students. Mrs. Locklear and her students have performed Native American presentations at many schools and various functions across the state. Her students' art work has been entered into different art shows with accomplishments on a variety of levels. Mrs. Locklear's main goal, as she has worked with her students, is to teach them to respect themselves and their heritage. She has encouraged her students to find their individual talents, to value and continue their education and to grow as productive citizens and leaders.

Mrs. Locklear has worked closely with the Coharie Tribe in many other roles. She served on the Coharie Tribal Council Board for over 15 years. She has played a role in working closely with young ladies as they have competed in Coharie Princess Pageants. She has proudly represented the Coharie Tribe as Mrs. Senior Coharie and as the North Carolina Senior Citizen Coalition Princess. She has made appearances at Powwows throughout the state, the NC Indian Unity Conferences, and Indian Youth Unity Conferences. She continues to provide assistance in preparing for the annual Coharie Powwow where she has made fry bread and worked at booths with her students and senior citizens displaying artwork and quilting.

Mrs. Locklear is an active member of the Coharie Senior Citizen Club where she coordinates functions and field trips. She assists in arts and crafts with the senior citizens, including quilting and beadwork. She finds pleasure and reward in knowing that the elders of the community are continuing to provide and instill pride in our native heritage.

Mrs. Locklear's artwork specialty is growing, painting and carving gourds. She has grown and designed all shapes and sizes. She finds peace and serenity as she works with gourds which she believes is a talent that God has given her. Her artwork has won several prizes and has been displayed all across the state and in the Native American Museum in Washington.

It is obvious that Mrs. Locklear has dedicated her life to her family and her job. She has been a role model as a teacher and leader for the Coharie Tribe and community. Her passion for the success of her tribe and community has influenced many young people as well as adults.

In her spare time, Mrs. Locklear loves being with her family, traveling, working in her garden, growing flowers and cooking.