



The Cherokee Word for Water - Director's Statement

The Cherokee concept of "gadugi" means working together to solve a problem. That's what happened in the tiny community of Bell, Oklahoma. We built a waterline to bring fresh drinking water to the people in the Bell community. What happened in Bell 30 years ago sparked a movement as Cherokee communities realized if the small community of Bell could do it, so could they. They built community buildings, ball fields, water lines and more. It shifted Tribal thinking.

The Cherokee Word For Water is a film about everyday people doing what they think is impossible, together.

Wilma wanted this film as her legacy. I never realized the importance of a legacy until she was gone and so many people told me how they looked up to her and that she made them believe in themselves and their message is exactly why this film is important.