



# *Muscogee (CREEK) Nation*

*Executive Office*

## **DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2024 AS “INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOL SURVIVORS, MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE”**

**A Proclamation by the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation**

### **PROCLAMATION**

- WHEREAS,** the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a sovereign Nation and as such seeks to protect the rights, welfare and safety of its citizens: and
- WHEREAS,** the National Council adopted, TR 24-092 declaring the month of September as “Indian Boarding School Survivors, a Month of Remembrance”; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States, beginning with the Indian Civilization Act Fund of March 3, 1819 and the Peace Policy of 1869, acting in concert with the urging of several denominations of the Christian Church, adopted an Indian Boarding School Policy intended to implement cultural genocide through the removal and reprogramming of American Indian and Alaska Native children to accomplish the systematic destruction of Native cultures and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** U.S. Native children were either voluntarily or forcibly removed from their homes, families, and communities and taken to schools far away where they were punished for speaking their Native language, banned from acting in any way that might be seen to represent traditional or cultural practices, stripped of traditional clothing, hair, and personal belongings and behaviors reflective of their Native culture; and
- WHEREAS,** survivors have experienced historical trauma associated with their experience in boarding schools and this has had direct impacts to indigenous languages, culture, and religion; and
- WHEREAS,** we recognize and honor the survivors of the Boarding School Era within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition has been working with members of Congress to reintroduce and pass the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies and the act would establish a

federal commission that would conduct a full inquiry into the assimilative policies of U.S. Indian boarding schools; and

**WHEREAS,** the Nation's goal will be to work together in creating an annual Action Plan to remember those who attended Boarding Schools and assist with programs, ceremonies, and activities in future years to come.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

I, David W. Hill, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do hereby proclaim September 2024 as "Indian Boarding School Survivors, Month of Remembrance" and I call upon all citizens to devote your time in remembering survivors and those lives that were lost.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,**

I have hereto set my hand and seal on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

*David W. Hill*  
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David W. Hill, Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

