



# *Muscogee (CREEK) Nation*

*Executive Office*

## **DECLARING APRIL 2020 AS "SECOND CHANCE MONTH"**

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

### **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS,** all citizens deserve to be treated with human dignity and all citizens deserve to feel safe; and

**WHEREAS,** the Muscogee (Creek) Nation recognizes the significant impact that crime has on victims, families and strives to both reduce crime and improve the lives of incarcerated citizens and their families; and

**WHEREAS,** the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to work to enhance and expand the Nation's Reintegration Program and prevent recidivism by addressing the needs of tribal citizens who are discharging from incarceration and reentering into the community; and

**WHEREAS,** the Nation's Reintegration Program is designed to assist Muscogee (Creek) citizens make the transition from prison back into society by establishing confidence, responsibility and independence; and

**WHEREAS,** the Reintegration Program meets the participants needs while reaching out to those not normally serviced and create alternatives to incarceration thus producing safer communities by decreasing recidivism through rehabilitation; and

**WHEREAS,** currently 7% of the population in the State of Oklahoma are incarcerated and 8% of those incarcerated are Native Americans; and

**WHEREAS,** the State of Oklahoma continues to rank #1 for incarceration in the United States and internationally with 19 Oklahoma state prisons; and

**WHEREAS,** as of 2019, over 2.2 million men and women are incarcerated in the United States with 2.7 million children with a parent in prison; and

**WHEREAS,** the Nation's Reintegration Program success has made a huge impact on those that deserve a second chance by helping participants find a new life path; and

**WHEREAS,** we recognize those who have exited the prison system and successfully reentered society and renew our commitment to providing support and resources that former inmates need to meet their responsibilities, rediscover their self-worth, and benefit from the opportunity of another chance; and

**WHEREAS,** we also express our gratitude to those who have a role in helping reduce recidivism, including faith-based and community organizations and employers willing to hire workers with a criminal history.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

I, David W. Hill, Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation do hereby proclaim April 2020 as “Second Chance Month” for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and increase awareness to support those who have paid their debt and successfully reentered society.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,**

I have hereto set my hand and seal on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

*David W Hill*

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

