



2nd Quarter | 24

Prepared by the Principal Chief  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Branch

Submitted to the National Council  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legislative Branch

FY 2024 Quarterly Report

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# *Muscogee (CREEK) Nation*

*Executive Office*

April 23, 2024

Speaker Randall Hicks and Members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council:

I am pleased to present the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Branch FY 2024 Second Quarterly Report. The report includes performance during this past year and goals shared by the departments. My goal is to allow our citizens to see areas where improvement has been made, and to objectively measure our improvements this year.

I appreciate the Nation's departments for their hard work during this pandemic and in compiling this report. It is a great honor to serve the people of this great Nation. I invite further input from the staff and from the National Council for future reports that reflects an even better job of providing information you need in preparing.

Mvto!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David W. Hill".

David W. Hill  
Principal Chief

FY 2024 SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT  
January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY – Patricia Kilian, Controller**

Accomplishments:

During the second quarter, the Treasury Department issued **29,779** accounts payable checks (**20,369** Tribal and **9,410** Health) totaling **\$105,032,469**. The volume of accounts payable checks increased by **396** for this quarter. The Office of Management and Budgets issued **499** travel authorizations (**455** Tribal and **44** Health) and **939** purchase orders (**525** Tribal and **414** Health). There were **2,859** employees at the end of the quarter (**1,542** Tribal and **1,317** Health) compared to **2,775** for the previous quarter. Total payroll costs for this quarter were **\$38,958,507**.

At the end of this quarter, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN, or the Nation) had 173 federal grants/contracts.

At the end of this quarter, the permanent fund had \$547,759,788, which was an increase from the previous quarter's amount of **\$519,230,021**.

Gaming distributions are received by the 15th of each month and reserved for future fiscal year operating costs. Gaming distributions increased by \$162,788 for the periods indicated below. Below is a breakdown of the gaming revenue received from December 2023 through February 2024 (Q2 FY 2024) and the same period for the prior fiscal year (Q2 FY 2023).

**Gaming Distributions**

	<u>Q2 FY 2024</u>	<u>Q2 FY 2023</u>
Tulsa	\$ 18,393,025	\$ 19,669,254
Muskogee	5,147,127	4,409,450
Duck Creek	3,321,612	3,175,519
Checotah	2,071,282	1,794,747
Okmulgee	1,345,010	1,309,797
Eufaula	653,455	559,493
Bristow	625,170	398,164
Holdenville	356,739	323,459
Okemah	58,179	168,928
	<u>\$ 31,971,599</u>	<u>\$ 31,808,811</u>

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE – Geri Wisner, Acting Attorney General**

The Department of Justice provided numerous services for the second quarter of 2024 and continues to increase its caseload as it takes on new responsibilities and personnel. In Quarter two of 2024 the office of the Attorney General has filled 4 open positions and advertised for additional.

The Office of the Attorney General hosted the Justice on the Reservation conference in February at the River Spirit Casino, bringing together key people from multiple disciplines across the state to improve collaboration between state, federal and tribal partners in response to child maltreatment.

AG Wisner was invited to speak at Northwestern State University 100 Years Back, 100 Years Forward: Sovereignty, Community, and Indigenous Futures Conference. Staff has also attended Inter-Tribal, Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings, Oral Arguments, and a keel laying ceremony in the second quarter of 2024.

<b>Number of Cases Opened</b>		<b>Number of Cases Closed</b>	
Consultation and Advice Files	73	Consultation and Advice Files	30
Civil/Litigation	2	Civil/Litigation	0
Legislation	0	Legislation	0
Adult Protective Services	0	Adult Protection Services	1
State Juvenile Deprived/Adoptions	31	State Juvenile Deprived/Adoptions	0
Tribal Juvenile	33	Tribal Juvenile	17
Deprived/Delinquent/Adoptions	0	Deprived/Delinquent/Adoptions	0
Criminal Felonies	737	Criminal Felonies	29
Criminal Misdemeanors	521	Criminal Misdemeanors	37
Investigations	4	Investigations	3
Traffic Tickets	440	Traffic Tickets	75
<b>Legal Services Cases Opened</b>			
Uncontested Guardianships	32		
Estate Planning	13		
<b>Child Support</b>			
Number of Child Support Cases Opened	87	Number of Child Support Cases Closed	97
Collections	\$450,939.41		

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATION – Shane Holuby, Tribal Administrator**

The Department of Tribal Administration consists of several departments including Community Research & Development (CR&D), Facilities, Fleet Management, General Services Administration (GSA) Human Resources (HR), Information Technology (IT). These departments provide services, support, and information to Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees, tribal citizens, and community centers.

### Community Research & Development (CR&D)

CR&D continues to provide technical support, resources, and outreach to the twenty-four (24) chartered communities of the Mvskoke Reservation. CR&D also provided quarterly training for the Community Board of Directors in February that was hosted by the Wilson Indian Community. The training had speakers from Risk Management, Emergency Management, Housing, and the Office of the Attorney General. CR&D receive positive feedback and is already planning to hold another training during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter at a site to be determined.

CR&D maintains oversight of the Dustin, Kellyville, and Yardeka Indian Communities. Yardeka is making big strides within the community, the board worked together hosting events for members, attends various events within the reservation, and hosted a lock-in for their youth and invited the youth of Weleetka Indian Community. Yardeka and Wilson Indian Communities are working together with fundraisers as both communities are planning to travel to Macon, GA for the Ocmulgee Mound Celebration in September. Weleetka Indian Community has a new board in place, they have helped improve the center by cleaning up, disposing of unused appliances, updated their kitchen, and repainted walls. They recently held a successful BBQ fundraiser. Cromwell Indian Community has continued to grow, provide for their members, been involved with chair volleyball for elders, and attended chair volleyball events hosted by CR&D, placing 3<sup>rd</sup> two times.

CR&D maintenance staff maintained routine checks of buildings and small work repairs as needed. They are preparing for mowing season and getting lawn equipment ready. CFO, Nicole Birdcreek, is helping treasurers of each community with monthly reports as they come in.

CR&D has hired three new people who have been a big help to the department. One was hired in maintenance, Amber Rideout as Community Specialist I, and Koty Fox as office personnel. Overall CR&D has seen great things coming from the communities and working hard to improve ourselves. We recently sent out a survey to the communities to see what improvements we need to make and what steps we can take. We look forward to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter and prepare for summer and more events within the communities.

### Facilities

#### Major Projects on Campus:

- Maintenance/landscaping of MCN Complex grounds
- Substantial amount of A/C maintenance work completed at various buildings
- Relocation of various offices.
- Mold remediation at Housing

#### Major Projects off Campus:

- Carpentry- roof repair and painting.
- Plumbing- emergency repairs on sewer lines, repairs on hot water tanks and septic tanks.
- Electrical- safety exit lights installation, changing of ballasts and fixtures.
- HVAC- Refrigeration repairs, AC/ heating unit repairs, and ice machine repairs.

- Pest Control- indoors and outdoors.

Completed work orders	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	FY24 Total
Total	165	156	321

### Fleet Management

Fleet Management provides maintenance for approximately 716 vehicles. Fleet completed 1,172 work orders, and 472 vehicle reservations were made through Fleet Management Software. Fleet also provides preventive maintenance for our Muscogee Creek citizens and employees.

#### Accomplishments:

- The number of oil changes, tires, and other work that Fleet Management performs remains steady, as they continue to focus on keeping the vehicles they service in good operating condition for reliability and safety.
- Twenty bids were sent out for other departmental vehicles to be purchased from department funds. Two vehicles are on order, twenty-nine have been submitted for purchase orders, and twelve vehicles have been received.
- 25 GPS devices were added to tribal vehicles.
- The maintenance team serviced and completed 740 citizen and employee vehicles. 497 of those vehicles were oil changes, and 498 tires were purchased. An additional 660 tribal and GSA vehicles were serviced and completed. 217 of those vehicles were oil changes, and 131 tires were purchased for departments.
- Fleet tow truck was utilized for 22 vehicle tows during and after regular work hours.
- One employee attended the Manager Training retreat.

	1st	2nd	FY24 Total
Departments, Communities, Citizens	\$105,691.96	\$185,763.81	\$291,455.77
Fuelman	\$32,915.86	\$23,291.34*	\$56,207.20*
Work Orders	926	1,172	2,098
GSA Leased Vehicles	\$156,922.41	\$143,463.89	\$300,386.30
PikePass	\$3,033.41	\$1,745.28*	\$4,778.69*
Vehicle repair (Outsourced)	1	3	4
Vehicles repaired	926	1,172	2,098

\*March Fuelman and PikePass totals were not available at time of reporting.

### General Services Administration (GSA)

#### Accomplishments:

- Inventory of tribal assets by barcoding continues. The value of items inventoried for this quarter is \$2,987,303.68. Inventory was performed at 24 sites.
- 170 items were disposed of in the WASP asset inventory system.
- Emergency PPE, cleaning and disinfecting supplies continues to be stored, inventory logged and provided to departments.

- GSA employees provide assistance for sanitizing and disinfecting tribal offices.
- Many surplus items were donated to Ryal School.
- Mailing of retail items for departments, providing tracking information, initial pricing details, and itemized reports. Updates were performed to assist users with the E-Certify Mailing System.
- Provided essential shipping guidelines and assistance for economy, express, ground and freight shipments to and from the Nation. Provided departmental shipping assistance for a FedEx freight shipment.
- Mailed out 115 book bundles for the ACE program, approximately 1,000 Mvskoke Language Program calendars, and processed three registered international mail pieces through USPS.
- Requested and received office furniture quotes for Holdenville Resource Center offices and lawn mower quotes for the Ceremonial Grounds.
- GSA staff members assisted with the relocation of offices by delivering and setting up surplus furniture for MCN Tax Commission at the new location in Okmulgee and delivered surplus items for Lighthorse to the new location in Muskogee.

	1 <sup>st</sup> Qrt	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qrt	FY24 Total
Postage Expense	\$59,370.10	\$70,300.63	\$129,670.73
Metered Mail	60,657	68,368	129,025
Express Mail	29	26	55
FedEx	23	17	40
Certified Mail	2,006	2,314	4,320
Work Orders Completed	85	69	154
Surplus Items (In & Out)	635	514	1,149
Purchase Orders Processed	453	564	1,017
Total Packages Received	1,957	2,274	4,231
Items Inventoried in WASP	724	626	1,350
Value of Items Inventoried	\$2,381,830.53	\$2,987,303.68	\$5,369,134.21

### Human Resources (HR)

The Human Resources Department is committed to providing effective human resource management by developing and implementing policies, programs, and services. We are dedicated to providing exemplary customer service and promoting a fair, equitable, ethical, and professional environment with competent and courteous staff. HR divisions are Recruitment and Retention, Training and Development, Labor Relations, and Benefits Administration. We are tasked with onboarding new hires, training, policy development and enforcement, benefits administration, leave management, workers' compensation administration, performance management administration, employee records retention, and labor relations.

### Accomplishments:

- Tribal Human Resources Professional certification was obtained by four Human Resources staff members.
- Inter-Tribal presentation| Topic: training & professional development strategic plan.
- Code of Ethics presentation to Community Board Members at Wilson Indian Community Center.



- Recruiting staff participated at various Career Fairs, including Tulsa University, OSU Tulsa, OSU Stillwater, CMN Resource Fair.
- Management Retreat sessions were held in February and March with a total of 189 participants. Training topics included: Communication, Leadership, Performance Management & Progressive Discipline.
- Benefits staff begun administering health benefits for 122 Muscogee Nation Business (MNB) employees beginning January 2024.

<u>Department/Tribe Statistics</u>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b>
❖ <b>Active Employees</b>	<b>1465</b>
❖ <b>Active Summer Youth</b>	<b>28</b>
❖ <b>Recruitment/Retention</b>	
➤ New positions opened	110
➤ Employment applications received	1895
➤ New hires	107
➤ Interdepartmental transfers	35
➤ Terminations (w/WIA)	49

\*Active Employees by Age and Race



### Information Technologies (IT)

The Information Technology Department provides the Nation with quality technology solutions and support. The Department strives to provide timely support and stable technology systems to address all business requirements while implementing safe and secure best practices.

#### Accomplishments:

- Cyber Security Policies – maintaining and updating cyber policies.
- Data Security – protecting data from malicious or accidental damage.
- Data Availability – quickly restoring data in the event of damage or loss
- Access Control – ensuring that data is accessible to designated employee only
- Internal Risks – lack of strong passwords, poor authentication, user access management
- External Risks – include social engineering, phishing/malware
- Data Breach Response Policy and security training – mandatory training for all staff, reduces risk of breaches, educates employees to easily identify cyber threats, and fosters a security culture and confidence.

- Compliance with Regulations – Legal and regulatory requirements for data protection, IT security, data protection, availability, and integrity.

Construction - Eufaula Dorm staff office had AT&T install a 100-meg network connection, this installation removes the Eufaula Dorm from the BIA network. Holdenville AT&T circuit is complete building networked.

Planned construction - Housing Low Rent upgrading all locations minimum of 100-meg. Head Start upgrading all locations to a minimum of 100-meg. Childcare upgrade to a minimum of 100-meg. Total upgrades 17.

Strategic planning FY25 - Data protection strategic planning FY25. Isolating back-ups from primary network. Data encryption at rest. Cloud based back-ups FY25. Disaster recovery as a service. Planning for FY25 to move the DR location located in Broken Arrow to a Disaster Recovery as a Service (DRaaS). Cloud-based solution to host the data center. Restoration in the event of disaster or compromise. Recovery time within minutes of a disaster. Compliance with regulations. Legal and regulatory requirements for data protection, IT Security, data protection, availability, and integrity.

Laserfiche forms migration - LF Forms migration complete. Development of Citizenship Inquiry Form completed 3/12/24. This form is developed for NC and Executive branch to manage citizen inquiries. ImageNet assisted with migration and building all Laserfiche E-Forms to the new Laserfische “FORMS” model. Travel E-form is currently in beta, this form will replace the paper process for travel and will become a digital form.

Camphouse support - Camphouse support analyst attended 6 Outreach events to continue to promote digital on-line applications.

MCN Help Desk Work Orders Processed	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Total 2024
Help Desk Tickets/Support	1,530	1,601	3,131

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – Shawn Terry, Secretary of Health**

### **Public Health Occurrences**

MCN Health Respiratory Illnesses peaked in February with Influenza positivity at 23%. March data has shown a decrease with Influenza at 14.5%, RSV at 2.3%, and COVID positivity at 11.6%. MCN Health COVID related hospitalizations during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter were at 8 admissions.

MCN Department of Health have been preparing for a potential influx of Measles cases. Currently, no measles cases have been reported in Oklahoma. From January 1 to March 14, 2024, 58 confirmed U.S. measles cases have been reported from jurisdictions, including seven outbreaks. Although measles was declared eliminated in the U.S. in 2000, cases have been detected in infectious international travelers, or, more commonly, domestic travelers returning from an area with an active measles outbreak. Public health officials are advising clinicians in Oklahoma to consider measles among patients who are presenting with a febrile illness and clinically compatible symptoms rash, cough, coryza, and conjunctivitis, especially those individuals who have recently returned from a destination experience an active measles outbreak.

### **Accreditation**

Annual accreditation surveys were conducted in Okmulgee March 12-14. Surveyors were onsite at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Medical Center and Muscogee Creek Nation Long Term Acute Care Hospital. On March 19, three additional surveyors reported to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Hospital in Okemah for its annual survey and concluded March 21. All site accreditations remain intact.

### **Strategic Planning & Initiatives**

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, enhancing patient care and patient experience metrics have been prioritized for establishing baseline comparisons. In the most recent 13 months, MCN Health has experienced the following improvements in enhancing patient care: a 2.1% decrease in the number of patients 18 and older diagnosed with hypertension who have uncontrolled blood pressure (>140/90 mmHg), a 0.6% decrease in the number of patients aged 18 and older diagnosed with diabetes that have a current A1c greater than 8.0%, a 2.76% decrease in the number of patients aged 45 and older who are overdue for colorectal cancer screening, and a 0.3% decrease in the number of female patients aged 40 and older who are overdue for a mammography.

MCN Health is also focused on identifying trends within the patient experience and improving patient satisfaction as one of our strategic plan pillars. MCN Health received the following data from our survey vendor Press Ganey. The Emergency Department, Outpatient Clinics, and Express Care experienced an increase in patient satisfaction from the previous quarter.

### **Data Modernization and Governance**

During the second quarter, MCNDH established a Data Governance Committee to oversee and protect our citizens' data and tell the story of our nation appropriately. This group will help determine how data is shared both internally and externally including all the systems that affect our citizens. As a result of this committee, MCNDH is working to re-establish an Institutional Review Board (IRB), approved by the National Council in 2010 (NCA 10-124).

### **Governmental Relations/Legislation Actions**

In the second quarter, Congress passed a minibus budget package, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 (H.R. 4366), for six appropriations bills, including the Indian Health Service (IHS) budget. The IHS FY 2024 budget is essentially flat funded at the FY 2023 funding

level which will generally be carried forward to FY 2025 in advance appropriations. SDPI received both a short reauthorization to December 31, 2024, and a modest increase to an annualized \$160 million level. SDPI had been funded at \$150 million per year since FY 2004. Although the Indian Health Service saw a \$3.7 million topline increase, advance appropriated accounts for services and facilities saw a \$61.4 million increase. The Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) also received its first funding increase in 20 years, funded now at \$160 million a year. These increases will continue to support critical services for Indian Country.

Events

On March 15, MCNDH welcomed Angela Ramirez, Deputy Chief of Staff for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Ramirez toured Council Oak and discussed the needs and priorities of MCN Health.

March 30 was National Doctors' Day. MCNDH recognized the contributions of our physicians and providers to our patients and communities.

Finance

March 2024 YTD Actual to Budget for FY24

Dept of Health	Budget FY24	Actual FY24	% of Budget
Clinics	120,383,761	53,851,517	44.7%
Hospitals	133,717,545	56,701,960	42.4%
Programs & Other	208,350,188	63,400,796	30.4%
Grand Total	462,451,493	173,954,274	37.6%

Facilities Management Projects:

Council Oak Hospice

The project is nearing completion with access control installation. Construction for the three-patient room with three adjoining family rooms located on the second floor of Council Oak is expected to be completed in April. Expected opening is mid-June 2024.

Medical Center Emergency Department Expansion

The new ER in Okmulgee is 13,000 sq. ft. featuring 12 treatment rooms including trauma. Additional space is reserved for isolation, decontamination, X-ray, and CT. The new ER is estimated to open in December 2024.

Pine Building Renovations

The east side of the building will be utilized for the Revenue Cycle Department and a waiting/reception area for patient access. The west side will be utilized for Optometry services. There will be seven eye exam rooms including a pretest area and eyeglass dispensary. Electric, plumbing, and framing for the new layout is currently in progress. The construction completion date is June 2024.

## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Carmin Tecumseh-Williams, Secretary**

The Department of Community & Human Services (C&HS) encompasses 12 client based social service programs committed to providing services, which promote self-sufficiency, through effective program delivery while maintaining compliance with Tribal and Federal regulations. Maintaining positive relationships with Tribal, State, and Federal entities are a necessity to ensure a comprehensive range of services are available to the youngest of citizens through the oldest. C&HS expended a total of \$11,223,713.56 in direct client services to assist 37,849 citizens.

Children and Family Services Administration (CFSA) attended 253 training opportunities, provided \$71,494.75 in direct assistance to families across all programs. CFSA hired for two (2) new staff members this quarter, transferred 3 staff members to new positions filling the Adoption, Guardianship and Permanent Custody Manager position and two Out of Jurisdiction Caseworker positions. CFSA currently has 48 staff members working in various positions. CFSA advertised to fill 3 case worker positions in the coming quarter. CFSA finished PARs to switch staff over from old grant fund numbers to the new grant fund numbers. CFSA continues to work on Business Process Mapping and updating policy and procedures in preparation of completing Title IV-E Pre-Printing processes. CFSA completed the budget modification steps for the CTAS grant and submitted for review and approval. CFSA is near completion on updating three of the training spaces in the new Community and Human Services building.

Elder Services Elder Advocates assisted 62 elders by placing homeless elders in appropriate housing, utility cut offs, ramps and evictions by utilizing the Senior Services Direct Assistance and collaborating with tribal construction. The Elder Advocates worked with the HAF Program to help elders pay property taxes, utilities and insurance premiums. The program provided \$9,471.78 in direct assistance to 24 elders. In January, the Adult Protective Services and Ombudsman Program attended the OKDHS Tribal APS Conference in Moore, OK. During February, the APS Department was invited to present and set up an information booth at the "Justice on the Reservation Conference at River Spirit, Tulsa, OK. Senior Services hosted the Elders Sweet Heart Dance on February 9, 2024 and had approximately 360 in attendance consisting of elders, spouses, caretakers and volunteers. CHR Program transported 1969 patients, installed 106 Medical Alerts, made 233 home visits and drove 154,089 miles for the 2nd Quarter.

Center for Victim Services (CVS) In January, CVS sent a group of new staff to a 40-hour tribal advocacy institute in Colorado. The program hosted 4 outreach events on the reservation in commemoration of Stalking Awareness Month. Program staff, along with AG's Office and Lighthorse Police Department, were invited and attended the first working group meeting of the City of Tulsa Mayor's Committee on Domestic Violence. In order to celebrate February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, CVS hosted a Skate Party with 25 youth in attendance. CVS selected and hosted a kickoff meeting with a design group for the shelter facility that will assist with completion of the interior/exterior finishes, furnishings and layout. In March, staff met with an office furniture vendor to develop a design and layout for the new Muskogee satellite office. Three new staff were on-boarded in March and interviews continued for remaining open positions. Sexual assault and domestic violence exams ceased in March with the resignation of the forensic nurse. CVS is hopeful that these critical services can be quickly restored through collaboration with Department of Health.

### Developmental Disability Advocacy (DDAP)

During the second quarter of FY24, legislation was enacted for DDA to provide necessary administrative support to implement Direct Assistance for clients. DDA was awarded the Family

Voices MCHB Unwinding Project Grant in the amount of \$8500 for the purpose of the Medicaid unwinding situation. Additionally, the funding will be used for printing and any other activities informing families about reapplying for benefits for developmentally disabled children and youth. We will continue to work with the Family Voices Organization to provide resources to families with developmentally disabled children and youth. April 19, 2024 Oklahoma Family Network will host a Joining Forces conference in Oklahoma City, OK. We have been involved with assisting in planning the Joining Forces.

Food Services Elderly Nutrition Program “ENP” and Native American Caregiver Program “NCAP” staff attended the National Title VI Training and Conference in Washington DC. ENP also hosted their annual Food Show in Glenpool. NACP started a Caregiver Support Group that is held monthly along with their annual Respite and Caregiver Training. Food Distribution Program attended the Annual Directors meeting held in Arizona and also are preparing for a USDA management evaluation that will be conducted in May. The Tiny Village is up and running taking intakes daily and still working out the details of the program. All programs have been attending monthly community meetings to help inform citizens of services available.

Main program highlights for *Social Services* during the Second Quarter of the Fiscal Year include the Tribal Energy and School Clothing Programs. The Tribal Energy Program concluded Heating Season (November - March) serving a total of 3,819 households, while School Clothing served a total of 1,346 students for the quarter. Also, during the quarter, Social Services attended the following outreach events: Thlophlocco Resource Fair, MCN College Resource Fair, Beyond the Reservation Outreach, Dustin Resource Fair, Spring Celebration, OKC Resource Fair (3x), and Challenge Bowl. All Social Worker vacancies have been filled. Efforts to fill one Receptionist vacancy and one Social Security Case Manager vacancy are underway. Social Security continues to transition and acclimate to TAS/Eaglesun operations.

Office of Child Care (OCC) During the Second Quarter of FY24, all CDCs participated in a field trip to the Muskogee Nation Spring Celebration. OCC participated in an AFC Technical Assistance Training March 27-28. Mvskoke Language instructor started on January 15, going to each CDC teaching the language to all ages. Spring Celebration was held March 20, we had 7 employees volunteer, donated water and inflatables for the event. Seven OCC employees attended Justice on the Reservation February 26-27. Construction is on schedule for Eufaula, Okemah and Wetumka, bi-weekly check in zoom meetings is held on Tuesdays to discuss the status. Assistance program is still covering co-pays for families, this quarter we have paid out \$1,94,921.70 in direct assistance serving a total of 3238. We currently have 8 open positions within our program. Tammy Lewis our Training Specialist received a Red Cross-National Lifesaving Award and Lifesaving instructor Award. The Lifesaving instructor award was crafted in 2020 and is now part of the awards and those who teach award recipients of either the certificate of merit or the lifesaving award for professional responders.

Southern Regional Office (SRO) For the 2nd quarter, we visited the communities of Hannah, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Bristow, Cromwell, Weleetka, Sapulpa, Morris, Glenpool, and Twin Hills. We did a presentation on the services offered at the SRO satellite office. We plan to visit all communities once we order more materials. The month of March we added APS/Ombudsman, Elder Advocates, and Child Support to the calendar to bring in more services.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) During the second quarter of FY24, the Tribal TANF Program assisted 1,225 individuals totaling \$178,586.76. This amount includes monthly cash assistance, supportive services, non-recurring services and diversion assistance. The Tribal TANF Programs offers counseling services to TANF families currently we have 22 active cases

that are utilizing this service. Tribal TANF attended and hosted the Social Services sub-committee at the Inter-Tribal Council quarterly meeting in January. Tribal TANF attended 5 resource fairs, the TANF youth program held a financial aid event and will continue to hold others in different locations. TANF staff participated in the challenge and assisted with the Spring Celebration.

Tribal Juvenile Justice (TJJ) During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY 2024, Tribal Juvenile Justice staff maintained regular attendance at National Integrated Ballistic Information Network, Northeastern Oklahoma School Resource Officer Group, Youth Justice Coalition, & Intertribal Council subcommittee. In addition to the program's regular outreach the program attended the Justice on the Reservation Conference, a Council of State Governments Listening Session and the Child Advocacy Center and Behavioral Health Kickoff. Tribal Juvenile Justice met directly with the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs to discuss the possibility of state pass through funding and with Tulsa Police Department to discuss shared cases and patrol procedures. Program buildout for the Tulsa office and the Truancy Program and efforts to improve status of Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation #9 grant continued. Staff during this quarter completed Directors/Managers training as well as training on mandatory child abuse reporting laws and strategies to reduce gang violence in juvenile justice settings. Conversations with Lighthouse regarding detention options persisted into this quarter as well as assistance provided to Kanji & Katzen with legal response to City of Tulsa suit. The program maintained communication with the Secretary of the Nation's Office regarding possible funding agreement amendments and a future tribal court assessment. Allocated funding for Tribal Juvenile Justice was transferred from the Motor Vehicle budget to the Motor Fuel Taxes budget with necessary change orders completed and reporting for Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention grant completed.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) In the second quarter of 2024, the WIC program coordinated with the Chickasaw and Cherokee Nations to implement an agreement to administer Summer EBT for the summer of 2024. This partnership will offer approximately 105,000 school aged children participating in the National School Breakfast & Lunch Program on the Muscogee Nation reservation a \$120 (\$40 for three months) food benefit to fill the critical gap of summer food insecurity. The federal food budget for this summer will inject an estimated 13 million dollars into the reservation's economy. The valuable infrastructure development for this project will allow students to be streamline certified; this means most students will automatically receive their Summer EBT card in the mail. We hope this process helps lessen some of the burden for our families. Keep an eye out for more Summer EBT program information in the coming months. In the second quarter the WIC program served 6,742 participants and expended \$438,476 for direct services.

Mvskoke Nation Youth Services (MNYS) The Second Quarter Mvskoke Nation Youth Services (MNYS) continued providing resources and opportunities to our Mvskoke Youth. We expended \$86,662.18 through the Mvskoke Youth Opportunity Grant. These funds assisted 293 Youth with Leadership, Educational, Sports, and Personal Development Opportunities. The Opportunity Grant provides supplemental funds to applicants who may not have the finical means to afford them the opportunity to attend these events. The MNYS has served 597 youth and young adults by providing resource material and outreach items totaling 205. MNYS will continue to work with other Muscogee Nation Program/Departments to provide Cultural Classes. This Quarter, MNYS did held two community events and attend four other community events. We opened our products for sale and have sold 49 items for a total of \$1,140.00. Our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Miss and Jr Miss have attended seven community events such as parades, public speaking, ground breaking, and outreach.

## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, AND TRAINING**

### **Kaila Harjo, Secretary**

For the second quarter, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Education continues to push forward in completing numerous projects. We are currently finishing phase one of the construction of the Okmulgee Early Head Start/Head Start facility with an anticipated completion of September 2025. Recently, congress retracted the income guidelines for all American Indian/Alaskan Native children wishing to attend Head Start. This will allow for continued growth of our Nation's Head Start programs and the construction plans for additional Head Start centers throughout the reservation. Our Reintegration program has completed the design phase and will look to start construction within quarter three.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation reservation has 67 school districts with 52 schools identifying as Johnson O'Malley-funded schools. For the second quarter, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Education has conducted 59 tribal consultations. The tribal consultation process allows for meaningful collaboration between the Nation and the school district.

In accordance with the Department of Education and Training strategic plan, we are working collectively to create a community assessment to use within the reservation schools and communities. This data collection will allow our programs to review and revise current programs and aid in the program development of new programs. For quarter three, our programs will become more visible within our reservation communities to provide program information and collect feedback from citizens. The citizen input and feedback are vital to the growth of our programs. Within our strategic plan, we outlined staff development as a key objective. Our program managers are attending leadership trainings to gain an in-depth understanding of being servant leaders and guiding their staff respectfully and adequately.

In our efforts to increase citizen engagement, we have prioritized our social media presence. The Department of Education & Training Facebook account gained 488 new Facebook page 'likes,' an increase of 38.6% over the previous quarter.

During the second quarter of FY 2024, the Director of Education Community Services participated in eight projects and events to connect with citizens and share valuable information about educational, tribal, and federal services. These events included community meetings, resource fairs, and specialized training opportunities for educational partners and citizens. The Department of Education and Training also distributed monthly 'informational packets' (flyers, announcements, registration, etc.) to chartered communities.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Education 2024 High School Honor Cord Program has closed for the school year. The honor cord program celebrates graduating Muscogee (Creek) high school seniors with a braided, green, and gold graduation cord with a custom, full-color charm of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation seal. Students may wear the cord during their commencement ceremonies and keep it as a token of their accomplishments. In total, the Department of Education & Training distributed 910 honor cords to students by the end of the program.

#### **NCA 23-043 Fiscal Relief Funding**

The Department of Education Virtual Learning Support Program assists with \$850 per Muscogee (Creek) students with their technology needs that support virtual learning. The total expenditure at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter is \$1,004,636.48.



### NCA 00-136 Special Academic/Extra-Curricular Program

The Department of Education and Training assisted 45 Muscogee (Creek) students with the academic/extra-curricular grant program and the total expenditures during the second quarter is \$22,017.65.

### Accessing Choices in Education (ACE)

ACE works with American Indian and Alaska Native students of any tribe who attend school within the boundaries of the Muscogee Nation reservation.

During the second quarter, 310 students were served through 329 services. The MCN Cultural Experience service allowed students to explore the Mvskoke Educational Trunk and receive a lesson about ribbon skirts and vests through Meet the Artist. Students also participated in hands-on cultural experiences making woven stickball game balls and painting Mvskoke words through Cultural Labs. Cultural Labs also include storytelling and the Mvskoke language. Of the 310 students served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 213 students are Muscogee Creek, 47 students are Cherokee, 18 students are Seminole, 16 students Choctaw, 3 students Chickasaw, and 13 students other tribes.

During the Indigenous Readers: Read Across America event in February, 149 students received 'Book Bundles' containing two Dr. Seuss books and reading resources. Students received their Book Bundles so they could participate in National Read Across America Day which was held this year on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

ACT Test Prep Workshop with Shelly Beaty was held in Wewoka and 41 students attended and received TI-84 calculators. Since the ACE service area covers the entire MCN reservation, we strive to hold services in various areas so all students have access to our program. ACE visited 13 sites within the community: Bearden, Bristow, Broken Arrow, Butner, Holdenville, Justice, Lone Star, Okemah, Okmulgee, Porter, Sapulpa, Sasakwa, and Wewoka.

### Native Youth Community Project (NYCP)

The filming project with Vision Hill continued with more artist interviews and footage of the artwork at Council Oak Healthcare. NYCP is partnering with MCN Geospatial to complement this film project to help us update our website. This will include interactive maps that follow along with the past Native Studies curriculum and continue with locations of our current art and artists.

The NYCP 9-week challenges are ongoing to help increase interest in college/career readiness. The 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-week challenge focused on service-learning hours which helps students with their ICAP requirements and also helps their awareness of what it means to contribute to their community. The challenge was completed by 22 students with the incentive being a trip to the OKC Thunder game on April 14<sup>th</sup>. NYCP currently has 257 participating students from all four LEAs and 61 are scheduled to graduate in May.

The CERC (Cultural Education Resource Council) will focus on the FME (Future Mvskoke Educators) with participants from this cohort including current students in the CMN Master/Apprentice program and current and former educators who are interested in sharing/teaching their crafts. The Cultural Learning Classes were focused on gathering, prepping, and cooking wild onions, apron making, firekeeping, and seed and plant knowledge. This event was filmed and the video will be archived with Cultural Preservation so that the Nation can access the footage.

NYCP was invited to present in the Grantee's Showcase at the OIE Project Director's Meeting held at the end of February. This was unexpected since our grant team has been together for less than 1 year but we accepted and it turned out well with great feedback. Our curriculum coordinator

was also invited to present at OK JOM this year to speak about cultural storytelling in the classroom. NYCP was also invited by One Fire to attend The Dance of the Two Moons on March 9th, which is an annual fundraising event hosted by the Indian Healthcare Resource Center in Tulsa to support youth and family programs.

### Employment & Training Administration

The Employment and Training Program provides an opportunity for Native Americans to obtain the technical/occupational skills and job training to succeed within the workforce. The ETA Program focuses on addressing challenges of unemployment, underemployment, and the economic needs of Native Americans residing in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reservation by developing an individualized employability plan (IEP). The IEP focuses on the client's short-term and long-term goals and then identifies challenges or barriers preventing them from obtaining their goals. ETA also offers youth services through summer youth and the year-round work program for our "at-risk" youth within our reservation.

For the second quarter, ETA had 1,008 active clients. ETA currently oversees concurrent enrollment for high school students and has provided financial support to 103 students. Our work experience program offers job placement within the Nation or contracted work sites. This program currently has 48 active workers with 15 being gaining full-time employment with their respective work sites. Summer Youth received 751 applications and the staff is working diligently to provide a work site for each applicant. To date, ETA has provided over \$576,851.32 in client support payments, classroom training payments, and tribal grants/incentives.

Key Accomplishments during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter:

- 15% of the Adult Work Experience Program were hired
- 2% of the Youth Works Program were hired
- Met with Marathon Petroleum and Operation Warm and planning a shoe drive for June 2024. Awarded a \$20,000.00 grant to provide shoes to kids and toddlers that are in the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Plan a short-term "CLEET" Certification class with Green Country Technology Center.

### Head Start Program

The Head Start Program is federally funded for 289 children and the program's FY24 began on December 1, 2023, and ends on November 30, 2024. Currently, the Head Start Program has served 317 children and families during the 2023-2024 school year. Thirty (30) Individual Education Plans (IEP) have been implemented and fourteen (14) are pending from the Local Education Agencies (LEA). The final Child Outcomes and screenings are completed by the end of March.

The program continues to assist families with resources and provide educational information. Mvskoke Language continues to be promoted in the classrooms to preserve the culture and language. The Euchee Butterfly Farm visited the Okmulgee Center to provide learning experiences connected to repopulating the butterflies for the children and to promote agriculture. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program in Okmulgee is the first Head Start program to implement the development of raising butterflies and will be implementing a butterfly waystation exhibit in front of the center. The program has hosted many family engagement events promoting father/male involvement, literacy nights, art shows, dances, science experiments, and parent committee meetings.

### Higher Education

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Higher Education administers a total of seven grant and scholarship programs which include Tribal Grants, Tribal Incentive Grants, Self-Governance

(BIA) Scholarships, Tribal Scholarship (NCA-03), Post Graduate Masters Grant, Doctoral Grants, and the Higher Education Emergency Scholarship.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of FY24, the Department of Higher Education awarded a total of 2,167 grants and scholarships totaling \$3,112,067.12. The distribution is as follows: Tribal Grant 995 awards totaling \$1,683,250.00; Tribal Grant Incentive 694 awards totaling \$409,125.00; Self-Governance (BIA) Scholarship 168 awards totaling \$184,750.00; Tribal Scholarship (NCA-03) 21 awards totaling \$25,337.00; Masters Grant 203 awards totaling \$371,000.00; Doctoral Grant 72 awards totaling \$393,389.00; and Higher Education Emergency Scholarship 14 awards totaling \$45,216.12.

FY24 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 1/1/24 – 3/31/24	Awards	Amount
Tribal Grant	995	\$1,683,250.00
Tribal Grant Incentive	694	\$409,125.00
Self-Governance (BIA) Scholarship	168	\$184,750.00
Tribal Scholarship (NCA-03 Borderline)	21	\$25,337.00
Masters Grant	203	\$371,000.00
Doctoral Grant	72	\$393,389.00
Emergency Scholarship	14	\$45,216.12
<b>Total FY24 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b>	<b>2,167</b>	<b>\$3,112,067.12</b>

The Department of Higher Education Undergraduate Application is now available on the Camphouse Portal beginning with the Fall 2024 semester. Undergraduate continuing students in the Higher Education program will need to reapply on the Camphouse Portal beginning with the Fall 2024 semester. IT and the Camphouse Support Team continue to assist the Higher Education Department with the new application process and Salesforce Software as needed. The Camphouse Support Team is also available to answer student questions or assist students with technical issues. The Salesforce Software will provide a more efficient process of notifying students of completed applications, and missing documents, and a timelier process of awarding students their funding. The Post-Graduate Program applications will move to the Camphouse Portal on November 1<sup>st</sup> for the Spring 2025 semester.

The Department of Higher Education Fall 2024 Undergraduate Application is open from March 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>; Post Graduate Applications are open from March 1<sup>st</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>. During March, the Higher Education Department received 385 new undergraduate applications, 8 new master’s program applications, and 10 new doctoral program applications for the Fall 2024 semester.

Students continue to submit documents for Spring 2024 semester funding. The Grant Advisors are working to process these awards as soon as possible, in addition to reviewing new applications for the Fall 2024 semester.

During FY24, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, the Department of Higher Education participated in the following conferences and outreach events: Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes Quarterly Meeting at Riverspirit Casino, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Oklahoma City Resource Outreach-January and March, Muscogee (Creek) Nation TANF Youth Financial Aid Event, Berryhill Public Schools Indian Education Junior and Senior Consultation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Beyond the Reservation Outreach-Siloam Springs, Arkansas, Oklahoma Johnson O’Malley Higher Education Workshop.

#### Vocational Rehabilitation Program

The Muscogee Creek Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program (MCNVRSP) functioned at 7.00 FTE (100% or full staffing) for the last two months of the second quarter of

FY24. Full staffing will allow the program to achieve annual goals in a more prompt and timely manner.

During the second quarter of FY24, 35 referrals for VR services were received. These referrals have resulted in 28 applications for services. The MCNVRSP staff carried a total of 96 active cases during this reporting period.

For the second quarter of FY24, the MCNVRSP processed 28 applications for services to achieve 64% of the annual goal, developed six (6) individual plans for employment (IPE) to achieve 40% of the annual goal for IPEs, and assisted five (5) clients in achieving a successful employment outcome (SEO) or 29% of the annual goal for SEOs.

The MCNVRSP has demonstrated substantial progress in program performance for the first six months of FY24. Now that the program has been fully staffed, we anticipate continuing to make progress toward achieving or surpassing our annual goals for client services as well as outreach.

### Scholarship Foundation Program

During the second quarter, the Muscogee Nation Scholarship Foundation raised \$12,795.84 through individual donations, project fundraisers, and our Workplace Giving Program. The Foundation is extremely grateful for the 90-plus Workplace Giving Donors from the tribal, health, gaming, and College of the Muscogee Nation divisions. Each of these supporters reinvests into our scholarships, community initiatives, and research through payroll deductions by contributing to the development of educational opportunities for Muscogee Scholars both on the reservation and across the nation.

The Foundation proudly shares that, for the first time at these levels, we were able to award a total of 50 scholarships at an amount of \$85,000 to Muscogee Scholars that attend 27 different institutions throughout the country for the Spring 2024 term. These totals also reflect our inaugural class of the Aristocrat Cokv Hecv Honors Program class, at which 10 Muscogee Scholars were selected based on their commitment to the Muscogee Nation, leadership, community service, and academic performance. The Foundation is very appreciative and grateful for the relationships with donors, supporters, community members, and the Muscogee Nation leadership that have made these scholarship opportunities available to Muscogee Scholars.

As a part of our community initiative strategic goals, the staff visited with numerous individuals and organizations to provide information sessions about the MCN Scholarship Foundation; information shared includes our 7871(a) tax status, strategic planning, fundraising events, community projects, and partnerships. Additionally, the staff are actively visiting high schools to build Muscogee students' awareness of the Foundation's scholarship opportunities as well as provide training workshops on scholarship application planning and cultural presentations. Staff visited Berryhill High School, the Intertribal Council-Education Committee, the MCN-JOM Challenge Bowl, the Statewide JOM Conference (Higher Education Workshop), MCN-TANF Financial Aid Night, and the MCN Citizen Gathering in Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Partnerships with higher education institutions, corporations, businesses, individual donors, and scholars are essential to our Foundation projects and initiatives. Throughout the years, we have worked to solidify each relationship through celebrations, recognitions, and other opportunities. For example, The University of Oklahoma Athletic Ticket Office committed to the MCN Scholarship Foundation and created fundraisers for our scholarships and community initiatives through ticket sales during four (4) OU Men's and Women's Basketball games, which greatly contributed to our fundraising and we are very grateful for OU's continued commitment to the Native community and the MCN Scholarship Foundation.

Project fundraisers and the Foundation initiatives provide our donors, supporters, and community members opportunities to help us build opportunities for our Muscogee Scholars. These projects include our Nene Letkv 5K and Fun Run/Walk (May 18<sup>th</sup>, registration website is open), Cornhole Tournament (TBD), and Golf Tournament (September 13<sup>th</sup>). An additional Foundation fundraiser includes a new Muscogee Nation Scholarship Foundation car plate (designed by Shawn Taryole) that will be for sale at the MCN Tag Agency in the near future.

### Johnson O'Malley Program

The Oklahoma Johnson-O'Malley Conference was held at River Spirit Casino on March 26-27, 2024, hosted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Technical assistance was provided to school personnel and parent committee members with a Q&A session allowing attendees to address any questions or concerns regarding their programs.

During the conference, Lone Star Public School received the Exemplary Award. Chief David Hill delivered a warm opening welcome, while Representative Galen Cloud skillfully guided proceedings as Master of Ceremonies. Distinguished keynote speakers Dr. Robin Zapetahholah Minthorn, Chance Rush, and Second Chief Del Beaver provided invaluable insights throughout the event. Mvhayv Rebecca Barnett's invocation honored tradition and set a respectful tone. The final student count was submitted to the BIE reflecting 20,964 enrolled JOM students for FY 24, with 7,905 enrolled Muscogee (Creek) students for FY 24.

### MCN Challenge Bowl

The Challenge Bowl winners for the High School division were 1<sup>st</sup> place Glenpool Hvresee; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Glenpool Kokocvmpv; and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Beggs No Names. For the Middle School division was 1<sup>st</sup> place Glenpool Este Papv; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Glenpool Wotko; and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Beggs No Names. For the Elementary division 1<sup>st</sup> place Glenpool Kaccv; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Glenpool Tvstvnkvke, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Glenpool Fayv.

### Belvin Hill Scholarship

The Belvin Hill Scholarships were awarded during the High School Challenge Bowl competition with Edgar Ibarra who attends Tulsa Union Public School and Gabrielle Noriega who attends Eufaula Public School receiving the scholarships.

### Eufaula Dormitory

The students have been busy this spring participating in basketball, softball, band, track, and golf. The Academic Advisor and the Librarian/Tutor are helping our students keep their grades up, complete projects, and write quality reports and essays. The students finished the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year with a cumulative GPA of 3.18.

The Eufaula Dormitory is partnering with NYCP to provide activities for our students which include etiquette class, beading class, and ribbon skirt classes in the near future. The dormitory also provides Mvskoke Language Class on Tuesday evenings and Wellness Wednesday activities. We are currently prepping for the end-of-the-year activities and graduation celebration dinner.

### Reintegration Program (RiP)

The Reintegration (RiP) program is working hard to provide services to our citizens while focusing on recruiting. During this quarter 26 support payments for clothing assistance, 34 payments for food assistance, and nine payments for rental assistance utilizing our direct services line.

RiP has exhausted our CTAS grant for extended services and unfortunately, these services play a vital role in additional services we may offer to our citizens. This leaves a major service gap until

we can re-apply for the same grant, in fiscal year 2025. Services provided by this grant include assistance with driver's license reinstatement, substance abuse treatment, legal services, and case management services.

Reintegration staff were able to provide a multitude of resources to citizens. Currently, 17 clients are on-site as well as 22 clients off-site. The greenhouse worker has been busy planting seeds and setting up for future growth. A plant giveaway reaching over 60 citizens included tomatoes, jalapenos, bell peppers, and squash. The recreational coordinator has been able to keep our client busy with a variety of activities including game nights and an Easter Holiday feast. Reintegration has had the privilege to host the Department of Education and training Cohort Leaders of Tomorrow. This course is focused on creating leaders in the workplace. After two years of success, RiP has had the privilege of completing the first official Fiber Lineman Program completely under the Muscogee Nation banner. The total number of students who graduate this quarter is 14.

Reintegration has increased in outreach to clients considered “at risk” to help them establish themselves in the community and gain practical life skills. We have partnered with behavioral health for wellness as well as cultural activities. The youth advocate has been working to build relationships with schools throughout the reservation including Dustin/Graham, Bristow, Berryhill, and Okmulgee. In-school appearances are going to be a highlight and will be a way to keep in touch with students and bring in other resources/activities into schools.

The Outreach Specialist has attended various events throughout the reservation. Worked alongside the Fiber Lineman Program team to enroll students and receive assistance with funding. Increased social media activity to promote Reintegration and the Fiber Lineman Training Program regarding enrollment and the graduation ceremony. Contact the American Probation and Parole Association to provide Reentry workshops while promoting MCN Reintegration and networking with other tribes across the nation. Continues to provide resources and referrals to citizens needing to reinstate their driver’s license or complete court-ordered requirements.

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AFFAIRS – Jesse Allen, former Acting Secretary**

Realty Trust/Services Department

In February, staff attended the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual National Indian Realty Awards in Santa Ana, CA. Brandy Kaler presented “Realty Issues Impacting Muscogee Creek Nation”. Trophies and medals were presented to each staff; Sonya McIntosh, Danielle Moss, Brandy Kaler, and Belinda Greene as one of the Top 20 Indian Land Professionals in the Nation. The MCN Realty Department was awarded the Indian Land Office of the Year.

Staff assisted in the purchase of 3 pieces of property, made 320 total deliveries of wood to elder creek citizens, ceremonial grounds, and churches. Community outreaches were held at Twin Hills, Citizens Beyond the Reservation, Muscogee Nation Inter-Tribal presentation and Oklahoma City. Staff attended City Meetings at Haskell and Wetumka; Attended the Choctaw Nation Lease Sale on 1/25/24.

Total Trust acreage is 14,151.05 acres, more or less, at the conclusion of this quarter.

<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>
Quiet Title Suits Answered	10	11
Leases Approved (86 Pending)	4	6
Funds Collected for Leases	\$295,786.26	\$301,955.77
Right-of-Ways & Service Lines Approved	1	1
Funds Collected for Right-of-Ways	\$3,250.00	0
Surveys Completed	17	20
Allotments Encoded in TAAMS	2	1
District Court Probates Completed (33 Pending)	23	20
Funds Distributed for District Probates	\$64,057.90	\$3,684.85
Properties Placed in Trust (Tribal and Individual)	2	4
Trust Packages submitted to BIA for Approval	1	10
Appraisals Completed	27	10
Title Status Reports Completed	154	158
Fencing Projects Completed	3	4
Trespass Issues resolved	6	5
Administrative Fees Collected	\$550.00	\$3,320.00
Land Referral Svc. Applications Sent out	60	55

Oil and Gas Department

*Title 43 Oil and Gas Code:* The O&G Department has attended multiple conferences, meeting with other Tribal Leaders and obtaining valuable information for the amending of Title 43. These updates have been discussed with the Attorney General’s Office, Tax Commission, Environmental, Cultural and various other departments. Meetings are ongoing with the LNC Committee with National Council in order to move forward in the understanding of Title 43 and towards the amended approval.

*Mineral Interest:* Mineral title is being researched and is fifty percent completed on the Looped Square Ranch.

*Assisting citizens:* The O&G Department is assisting heirs with Oklahoma Corporation Commission oil and gas spill incident report filing. O&G is working alongside Realty to ensure that OCC is correctly remediating lands that have been impacted. We have had the opportunity to

visit amongst land owners at community events and in office visits. We have been assisting with the understanding of oil and gas leases, royalty payments and division orders.

The Oil and Gas Department has attended a variety of conferences and continued education for industry and business development.

*The Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR):* ONRR provides a monthly database of all historic wells that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation receives royalty payments on. Our GIS department has developed a database allowing all data to be compared and saved easily.

**FY2024 Royalty Payments**

<b>Agreement Number</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>YTD</b>
NM 79734	\$1,026.54	\$398.50	\$1,425.04
NM 129929	\$57.51	\$21.60	\$79.11
NM138631*	\$1,938.56	\$989.85	\$2,928.41
NM 140792*	\$4,871.28	\$1,887.08	\$6,758.36
OKNM1057244629	\$258,305.26	\$1,259.52	\$259,564.78
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$270,755.70</b>

Reporting for February and March 2024 not yet available to add to FY24 Quarter 2.  
 \*No report for December 2023 for FY24 Q1.

Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

*Ag Youth Program* kicked off in January with the All-Indian Livestock show. Stock shows were attended weekly. Total student financial support for Q2 is as follows: Livestock Assistance, \$15,090; Small Animal Assistance, \$450; Archery Assistance, \$251.97; Leadership Experience, \$1,720 and Official Address Assistance, \$1,312.

*Wildlife Program* turned their efforts to hunter education and species research. Staff is wrapping up the Wild Turkey project by placing more transmitters on hens and netting 40 birds to date. Gobble survey data was collected, and the Country Club/Nature Reserve has signage up and is open to the public. The Chronic Wasting Disease study was successful, with over 150 samples taken so far and all returned negative.

*Looped Square Ranch:* Herd breeding stock numbers are: 561 bred cows, 160 fall calves on cows, 64 spring calves on cows, 70 fats on feed, 180 weaned heifers, 306 yearlings, and 18 registered bulls. Total cattle: 1359. All cattle are in Okmulgee for the winter and feeding has commenced.

*NR/Fencing Program:* ¼ mile of new fence constructed, Four new gates were hung and a new entryway is underway at the ranch. 2.5 acres mulched to clear overgrowth, and several acres brush hogged. Routine maintenance of equipment completed. Currently constructing 1.2 miles of fence at the ranch.

*Meat Processing Facility:* We currently have 18 FT and 1 PT employee. In Q2 the meat processing facility made \$290,296.06, up 63%% this fiscal year over last. We served 3,151 customers this quarter. LSMC has given several tours and educational talks, and has provided meat for many events this quarter, we are proud to serve!

<b>Revenues FY 2024</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Livestock sales	\$66,006.72	\$130,760.28	\$196,767
Meat Company	\$288,233	\$290,296.06	\$578,529.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$354,239.72</b>	<b>\$421,056.34</b>	<b>\$775,296.06</b>



## Office of Environmental Services

Staff participated in a variety of webinars, conference calls and in person trainings pertaining to our environment, scope of work and to maintain required licensing.

*Orphaned Wells Program* hired two new staff this quarter to create an inventory of orphaned wells on tribal trust properties. The inventory includes plugged, active, abandoned wells and spills. Staff will remediate and cap wells. Staff are preparing to purchase equipment to begin clean up.

Work continues on the *EPA 106 and 319 Clean Water Act Grant (CWA 106)* for grant compliance and deliverables. Lab equipment is calibrated, water samples collected, monitored and uploaded into Open Waters database to EPA. Required reporting to EPA are all current and good standing. Two new hires are training and learning the programs.

Staff are beginning to work on the newly received *Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant (SWIFR)*. A position has been advertised and revisions with additions are being made to the final draft of the work plan as requested by the EPA Project Officer. Staff are preparing to purchase equipment and expand the Recycle Center. Staff continues to identify, collect pertinent information and complete right of entry forms, for solid waste dumpsites, within the reservation for cleanup under the EPA GAP grant. Several sites have been approved and cleanup is in progress

Monthly *Underground and Aboveground Storage Tank* inspections were conducted at all MCN locations, which include four UST locations and ten AST locations. Inventory is continually updated. Staff training and education continues.

The *Solid Waste Program* continues to supply dumpsters and Porta Johns to Ceremonial Grounds, Churches and Communities, as needed. The two Lagoon closures are in progress with tree and stump removal.

<b>Solid Waste Dumpsters Provided</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>YTD</b>
MCN Communities	6	4	<b>10</b>
Ceremonial Grounds	5	1	<b>6</b>
Churches	13	13	<b>26</b>
MCN Departments	8	47	<b>55</b>
MCN Citizen Rentals	9	11	<b>20</b>

<b>Recycling Center Projects</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>YTD (Pounds)</b>
Cardboard	53,940 lbs.	30,610 lbs.	<b>84,550</b>
Plastics #1 & #2	1,253 lbs.	1,196 lbs.	<b>2,449</b>
Mix Paper	5,833 lbs.	4,302 lbs.	<b>10,135</b>
Aluminum	117 lbs.	115 lbs.	<b>232</b>
E-Waste	23,516 lbs.	0	<b>23,516</b>
OCC Loose	0	29,860 lbs.	<b>29,860</b>

## Geospatial Department

The Geospatial Department continues to support the MCN Enterprise GIS and database that houses geospatial and non-geospatial records. Staff supports the work on the GIS Platform that provides departments across the nation a space to collaborate and work with others. The platform consists of 74 tribal users. Other department requests include drone flights, mapping, data management and other data related needs.

Staff also had training/meeting/workshop/collaborations that totaled 247 events.

<b>Work Flow Completed</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Maps Produced	211	255	466
Technical Assistance	241	172	413
Drone Activities	45	60	105
Grant funded Activity	67	142	209
Data Management Activity	50	125	175

*Brownfields 128A Tribal Response and BIL:* Program hired additional staff and worked on the deliverables for the program. This includes data archiving and water system data. The Brownfields program website has been revamped by using ArcGIS. Staff met with Administration on Brownfields projects and gathering feedback for the program.

*National Information Exchange Network:* Staff began work on the Recycle tracker application in conjunction with Environmental Services. Staff worked on migration of services to on-prem. Staff participated on the TXG National partnership group with EPA’s Office of OMS on a regular basis to provide feedback and input to support tribes.

*Development and Data Management Projects:* Staff has worked on multiple projects and assisted with support on the GIS applications this quarter. Staff worked on further development and maintaining systems for Arbor Care, Tribal Driveways, Senior Services, Oil and Gas, and assisted with Cloud/Network solutions. Staff assisted with web development projects.

#### Tribal Driveways Department

Continued upgrading driveways and open/closing burial services for tribal members. This program has worked very hard to make sure that every citizen’s need is met. Cement contractor will work on cement driveways weather permitting.

<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>Quarter 1</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Applications on File	41	34	75
Completed Applications	35	46	81
Applications Inspected	30	56	86
Ceremonial Grounds Done	-0-	-0-	-0-
Cemetery’s Completed	5	3	8
Burial Opening/Closing	23	19	42
Total Loads of Gravel	123	103	226
Gravel Expenditures	\$42,603.32	\$55,819.40	\$98,422.72
Tin Horn Expenditures	\$5,663.90	\$3,279.90	\$8,943.80
Cement Completed	9	7	16
Cement Expenditures	\$45,289.00	\$36,773.00	\$82,062.00

#### Federal Roads Department

- Cleared snow off the Tribal Parking Lots (Jan).
- Performed maintenance on the Employee Health Parking Lot and Okmulgee Travel Plaza by filling in pot holes with cold patch (Jan).
- Hauled ten loads of rock for Okfuskee County (Jan).
- Brought in eight end dump loads of rock at Big Arbor Church (Feb).
- Placed eighteen loads of rock on the road to Weogufkee Church (Feb).

- Hauled off bumpers from the Dewar Community Center Parking Lot that were left over from the parking lot addition (Feb).
- Took two loads of rock to Hickory Ground Church I (Feb).
- Hauled six loads of rock and graded Farm Road in Okmulgee (Feb).
- Hauled one load of rock and repaired the Elderly Nutrition Parking Lot in Eufaula (Feb).
- Put up signs on Salem Road, Schuler School Parking Lot and Beggs School Parking Lot for roads and parking lots we have previously done in February 2024.
- The waterline project on Oneta Road consisted of cutting in 3 12” valves and lowered approximately 100 ft of 12” waterlines in February and March 2024.
- Built Temporary Parking at the MCN Tribal Complex by hauling out 74 loads of topsoil, hauling in 60 loads of shale and 33 loads of rock in February and March 2024.
- Construction of the New Tax Commission Parking Lot in Okmulgee consisted of grading for proper drainage, adding and compacting rock base and laying 885 tons of asphalt in February and March 2024.

Transit Authority

The MCN Transit has transported 11,229 passengers, while traveling 68,331 revenue miles. The public transit system is growing and we have added new faces to our team to help serve the community better. In addition, four new vehicles were purchased to ensure quality service and a great travel experience. The impact is significant as transportation is provided within the MCN reservation area for Veterans, Elders, frontline workers, students, and general public. Transit provides a team of bus operators for MCN employees for transport to and from work each day, providing a much-needed service and reducing greenhouse gas emissions for the Nation as a whole in the process. This department will continue to try to introduce sustainable practices into our future acquisitions.

The Charter team, as always, has been busy with transporting community groups, church groups, and school sports team to many exciting events also. The Charter Services team has logged 5316 revenue miles while transporting 1047 passengers.

<b>Transit Rides FY 2024</b>	<b>Quarter 2</b>
Okmulgee Office Passengers	10108
Wetumka Office Passengers	1121
Ride-To-Work Passengers	1554
Trolley Route Passengers	324
Veteran Route Passengers	71
Charter Service Passengers	1047

Tribal Construction

- Pine Building First Floor Renovations (DOH)
  - Project is 50% completed
  - Awaiting final plans for remainder of project
- Okemah/Wetumka/Eufaula Child Development Centers
  - Okemah-working on underground rough in
  - Wetumka-Steel complete, transformer has been ordered through TUA
  - Eufaula-Dirt work started, pad being built
- Okmulgee Ranch
  - Project Completed

- Council Oak 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hospice (DOH)
  - Final punch list in progress
- COCH Pharmacy Council Oak Professional Building
  - Project Completed
- Plantation House
  - Project is in the final stages as kitchen and flooring remodel is nearly complete
- Life Safety
  - Weekly inspections; Plantation, Three Ponds, Looped Square, Ranch and MCN College
  - Ramp project is taking off with many requests submitted
  - Fire extinguishers being checked and updated throughout Nation
- Glenpool Indian Community Activity Center
  - Contractor is 85% complete
- New Glenpool Indian Community
  - Demolition completed
  - Remodel phase ongoing
- Omniplex Stage Upgrade
  - Pads are completed
  - Footings have started
- Okmulgee Head Start and Early Head Start
  - Tri-Arch has been selected as the Architect
  - Geotech report has been ordered
- Reintegration Wellness Center
  - Construction Plans are 75% complete
- Bristow Community Center
  - Survey of property forthcoming
  - 1Architecture has been selected as the Architect
- Medical Center ED Expansion
  - Majority of the steel has been stood up
  - Tribal Construction Utility responsibility has been completed

### Risk Management

MCN Risk Management department oversees the Tribal Property, Liability, Auto Insurance Policies and Arbor Care Service. The Risk Management mission statement is to create and maintain a healthy work environment for staff members, contractors, vendors, guests and tribal citizens. This office will track and maintain data from all programs related to Risk Management.

*Arbor Care Services:* Works emergencies in all areas of the MCN jurisdiction as needed. All calls and requests for ACS department handles each one promptly, courteously and in the timeliest manner as possible. There were 146 work orders taken care of in the 2nd quarter, including 10 emergencies, 11 special and 125 regular work orders. There are 159 current open work orders. ACS handles all sites as needed in special cases on daily basis. The ACS program hired 3 new employees and are now fully staffed.

*Insurance:* Currently there are 22 insurance claims being processed to date. There are 19 vehicle, 2 property files currently open. There have been 1 reported property incident, 9 reported vehicle incidents and 13 reported incidents for information only turned in for the second quarter of FY24. We had two major property claims that were reported in the first quarter that were currently being worked at the beginning of the second quarter. One property claim has been completed and closed.

Distribution for the supplemental payments is being requested for vehicle claims as needed. New vehicle insurance verifications are being issued as requested from all MCN programs. Each new concern is adequately handled as needed by the MCN insurance holder or thru the MCN Risk Management office.

Risk Management filled the two open positions for the department, Office Coordinator and Analyst, at the beginning of this quarter. The Risk Management department is now fully staffed. These two new positions are helping with general office duties, accounts payable and insurance claims.

## **DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND HUMANITIES – RaeLynn Butler, Secretary**

Secretary of Culture and Humanities- As part of the founding legislation, a selection committee composed of representatives from the executive branch, National Council, cultural departments, and ceremonial grounds selected the new Secretary of Culture & Humanities. The selected candidate, RaeLynn Butler was confirmed by the National Council (15-0) on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Battle of Horseshoe Bend 210<sup>th</sup> Commemoration- On March 23, 2024 the Horseshoe Bend National Military Park hosted the 210<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony in Daviston, Alabama. The ceremony featured Muscogee (Creek) Nation leadership, MCN National Honor Guard, hymn singing, wreath laying, and lighting of luminaries to honor the 800 warriors, women, and children who lost their life in this battle. Special guests from the Eufaula Canadian Tribal Town, Okfuskee, Nuyaka, and Greenleaf ceremonial ground attended the event. We are currently working on developing a monument dedicated the six tribal towns who fought, died, and survived the battle.

Homelands Protection and Partnerships- This quarter we visited St. Catherine’s Island, a private island in Georgia to discuss reinterment options for Mvskoke ancestors who were excavated from the area and reside at The University of Georgia, The Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, Fernbank Museum, American Museum of Natural History and Harvard Peabody Museum. The St. Catherine’s Island Foundation is open to allowing tribes to establish a reinterment site. The Secretary also attended the Seminole Tribal Fair in Hollywood, Florida to meet with leadership and tour the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on the Big Cypress Reservation. A Mvskoke history presentation was given to the University of North Florida for students studying Indigenous History of Florida with Dr. Denise Bossy. The department is currently in discussions with Florida State University on hosting a history symposium with the four federally recognized tribes from Florida in 2025. The Secretary was also appointed to the University of Georgia’s NAGPRA Committee.

### Cultural Center & Archives

Council House: The Council House welcomed a total of 291 visitors from 16 different states as well as international visitors from France, Bulgaria, and New Zealand. Staff hosted numerous tours including formal tours and presentations to 1) The Presbyterian School for Indian Girls Project, University of Tulsa 2) Sapulpa Schools, 70 students 3) Okmulgee Home School students 4) The Gillies, Gilcrease Museum Volunteers and Docents. Council House staff in collaboration with MCN Human Resources Dept. continues hosting weekly presentations and tours for MCN new hires. For Spring Break, the Council House hosted two days of arts and activities.

Mvskoke Art Market: Staff is coordinating for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mvskoke Art Market. Over 120 applications received and 95 artists selected to participate. Different presentations are scheduled for the two-day market.

Department staff have been actively participating in the Inter-Tribal Council Museum Workgroup planetarium project *Sky Stories of the Nations* in collaboration with the Science Museum Oklahoma. Department staff attended the Horseshoe Bend 210<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration events in Alabama. Department is planning for the Mvskoke Etlwv at Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Special Project Coordinator set up demonstrations at the 210<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and visited with over 1,000 students and 1,500 visitors to the park. At the end of March, Mr. Brown worked on a canoe at Ocmulgee National Historical Park that will be for the City of Macon.

<b>Sales for FY 2024</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> – Oct. thru December</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> – Jan. thru March</b>
Redstick Gallery Sales	\$10,452.08	\$7,667.87

Historic & Cultural Preservation

Cemetery Preservation Program: The Cemetery Crew helped mow, clean-up, fence, or provide tree removal services for 11 cemeteries and/or MCN properties this quarter.

NAGPRA: We continue to consult on NAGPRA collections throughout the U.S. and have worked on 38 NAGPRA cases with various museums this quarter.

Tribal Historic Preservation Office: We continue to receive and review 100’s of Section 106 projects on and off the reservation for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act. This quarter we reviewed 790 projects. The THPO hosted a Section 106 Compliance Class for MCN employees and will continue to host them every quarter. The Honey Springs Battlefield was declared a Traditional Cultural Place by Chief Hill in March. We are working to finalize the THPO, NAGPRA, and Burial Codes for the department.

Archaeology Division: This quarter the team conducted GPR surveys at the Tiger Bone Cemetery and the Postoak Cemetery. The Senior Archaeologist, Tribal Archaeologist, and Archaeological Technician positions are vacant and need to be filled.

National Library and Archives: This quarter we assisted with 21 genealogy requests and continue to add items to our digital archive. We continue work with the University of Tulsa on the Presbyterian School for Indian Girls and Indigenous Women Oral History Project with the National Park Service.

Mvskoke Language Program

The Mvskoke Language Program provides an array of language instruction to students, and citizens within and outside of our Reservation, with 6 Mvhayvlke (Instructors), 65.25 hours of Mvskoke Language instruction is provided at 8 MCN Head Start Locations, 6 Public school districts, one community engagement, and the MCN Eufaula Dormitory for the second quarter.

Grant information-

ANA Preservation & Maintenance-The grant is in its final quarter of the three-year award. The Project Manager created curriculum for language instruction for PreK through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The online learning platform for classroom language instruction continues to expand. Solicitation for partners of the public schools was conducted and there are 19 school districts requesting the Mvskoke Language be available in their classrooms. The Project Manager under this grant has completed the revamp of the Tribal Language certification testing and current language instructors completed testing. There is an intent to reapply for the same grant with a change in the scope of work. The deadline for this application is May 20, 2024.

ARP-American Rescue Plan grant-MCN Indian Community sites to complete for year three ending August 31, 2024. The elder language storytelling recordings can be found by searching the Mvskoke language program. We currently have 7 remaining communities to engage with for the completion of this grant. Overall we have 10+ interviews from these fluent elders highlighting the pandemic and the effects encountered in our communities.

The annual Language Immersion camp is planned for June 10-14, 2024. The camp will feature the demonstration of a ceremonial ground, a church environment, as well as a Mvskoke craft, which will be shared with the students. A full supply of hygiene items, sling packs, and promotional t-shirts will be provided to each student. At the end of the camp, an incentive for attending the camp will be provided to the parent with the intent that the incentive will be used for the benefit of the student. An Adult camp is also being planned in July 2024. The adult camp will be offered to the participants of our Sept 2023 Etohkvlketv (Gathering). There are plans to offer two levels of language at this adult camp, basic conversation and full conversation. We will be offering attendance up to 10 students for this camp. The Adult camp will feature motivational speakers that are second-language learners as well as fluent speakers.

As of February, The Mvskoke Language Program has relocated to 1008 E. Eufaula Street, Okmulgee, OK. The Mvskoke Language Project Manager is currently reviewing the business proposal from Languages 4 Generations to develop a language app for iPhone and Android users as well as making it accessible for desktop users. All pertinent documentation is being forwarded to the MCN Attorney General for their legal opinion. There were a number of our Mvhayvlke that attended a conference presented by the ILI (Indigenous Language Institute) in Albuquerque, NM that provided insight on classroom teaching techniques as well as increasing their knowledge of activities also known as brain breaks.

A number of Outreach events have been met with additional events on the schedule in the upcoming months. Our approach recently has been to show our resources digitally as opposed to solely on paper resources. Both are provided in the event we have those interested who are not as tech-savvy as some. QR codes have been proven to be ideal in many cases of interest.

#### Mvskoke Language Liaison Program

#### HVSE RVFO CUSE TON HVSE TASAHCUCE VTEKAT

The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program serves as liaisons between Mvskoke speakers and academic, cultural, and tribal institutions to promote, protect, and advance the Mvskoke Language and Mvskoke language communities. The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program collects and manages data on the Mvskoke language and speakers, hosts Mvskoke Language Speaker gatherings, advocates for the Mvskoke language speakers, and strives to develop more robust Mvskoke language communities through the empowerment of Mvskoke speakers.

The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program relies on “Mvskoke Language Speaker Engagements” to support all program objectives, projects, and other initiatives. Mvskoke Language Speaker Engagements are defined as follows: *“A Mvskoke Language Speaker Engagement is any conversation in which a majority of communication is utilizing Mvskoke Language more than English to express emotions, thoughts, and/or information. The length or duration of the conversation doesn’t matter – it’s the intention to communicate in Mvskoke that demonstrates how these types of conversations differentiate from “everyday-English” communication.”*

The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program documented the following Mvskoke Language Speaker Engagements consisting of 97 different Mvskoke language speakers, which includes first-language and second-language Mvskoke Language Speakers:

#### Rvfo Cuse 2024

First Language Speakers Engagements:	98 (84 in person, 14 digital correspondences)
Second Language Speaker Engagements:	74 (71 in person, 3 digital correspondences)



## Hotvle Hvse 2024

First Language Speaker Engagements: 103 (92 in person, 11 digital correspondences)

Second Language Speaker Engagements: 54 (49 in person, 5 digital correspondences)

## Tashacuce 2024

First Language Speaker Engagements: 112 (105 in person, 7 digital correspondences)

Second Language Speaker Engagements: 58 (53 in person, 5 digital correspondences)

The Mvskoke Language Speaker Engagements supports the Mvskoke Language Liaison Program's five major objectives: Mvskoke Language Data Collection & Management, Mvskoke Language Speaker Gatherings, Mvskoke Language Speaker Support & Advocacy, and Mvskoke Language Policy Development.

During FY24-2Q, the Mvskoke Language Liaison Program filled all program positions. The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program continues to promote the Mvskoke Language by incorporating the Mvskoke language into volunteering opportunities for various tribal events including, Spring Celebration (Svmpv Hayetv) and JOM Challenge Bowl (Mvskoke Language Speakers/Judges). Furthermore, the Mvskoke Language Liaison Program supported the 210th Battle of Horseshoe Bend Commemoration Event as the staff provided Mvskoke hymns, shared Mvskoke language oral histories, and utilized Mvskoke Language communication skills to honor the Mvskoke Language and Mvskoke ancestors.

The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program will host an event at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church, Hanna, I.T., as a part of the Mvskoke Hymns Documentation Project. This event will gather Mvskoke speakers, Mvskoke Hymns singers and Mvskoke language practitioners to document under-documented aspects of Mvskoke Hymns and the Mvskoke church histories. The Mvskoke Language Liaison Program continues to support the Mvskoke Language and Mvskoke Language Speakers by serving as liaisons as a means to promote, protect, and advance the Mvskoke Language.

## Euclidean Language Department

- The Euclidean Language Department started the quarter with Julian Rolland/Jayce Hill assisting Wilson Public schools, and Lone Star Lower Elementary with their cultural day events, Yoney Spencer assisted Sapulpa Vo-Tech Health Careers Class with their cultural day events.
- Tamara Wilson and staff consulted on book written by local Euclidean elder. Tamara was asked to speak at the book signing. The staff attended the intertribal meeting at the River Spirit Casino in January, along with student Alyssa Spencers presence at Outreach in Siloam Springs.
- Julian Rolland/Jayce Hill attended aquaponics training provided by the MCN Conservation, Julian Rolland attended language teaching method TPRS training in Atlanta, Ga. a method that empathizes on storytelling, Yoney Spencer/Anthony Cargil attended language training in Bozeman, MT that the Blackfoot/Arapaho tribes are implementing in their immersion schools. The department MCN youth worker Lindsey Dennison prepped and planted the Three sister seeds.
- The After School program has 35 enrolled students with an average of 28-35 students attending daily. During the second quarter students (33) that attended class with a 70% or higher were rewarded with a trip to watch "KungFu Panda 4" along with taking 25 students to spring celebration held by Mvskoke Tribal Child & Youth Coalition.

## **SECRETARY OF THE NATION – Zechariah Harjo, Secretary**

### **Office of the Secretary of the Nation (SON)**

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of FY24, the Office of the Secretary of the Nation made significant progress on the planning, development, implementation, expenditure and reporting of federal and Tribal funding allocations, including the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Nation’s Tribal self-governance compact funds with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, among other federal agencies. The Office assisted in the establishment of the \$10 million Muscogee Nation Business Revolving Fund with the Mvskoke Loan Fund, to assist the Nation’s subsidiaries access capital to increase business development and capacity. Additionally, the Secretary worked with National Council to draft necessary amendments to a number of ARPA appropriations the Nation has made previously in 2021 and 2022, in response to reporting and reinvestment requirements.

Together with the Planning Office, the Secretary’s Office continues to develop the Nation’s economic endeavors and livelihood through the research, expansion, investment of federal and Tribal funds in both governmental programs, services, functions, and activities, and in the commerce and business affairs of the Nation. This includes: planning and development of the Looped Square Meat Market and Looped Square Ranch; the development and coordination of internet technologies and energy projects with the MCN Tribal Utility Authority; the coordination and planning of the Low Water Dam Project and the commercial development of South Tulsa; and much more. In February, the Secretary of the Nation participated in a trade mission at the request of the Canadian Consulate out of the Dallas regional area, to explore international trade and business opportunities that may exist between a federally recognized tribes here in Oklahoma and first nations in British Columbia (Canada).

### **Contracting and Employment Support Office (CESO)**

CESO currently has 330 total certified vendors, including 18 new vendors and 34 renewals. The Office sent out 58 Requests for Proposals on behalf of various departments. CESO has been involved in discussions for the development of the Office’s foundational laws and policies to correspond and support the implementation of the Nation’s other governmental agencies, such as the MCN Tax Commission and the Attorney General’s Office. Manager Warren Harjo was selected to be a part of the national Council for Tribal Employment Rights. Additionally, CESO attended the 2024 Reservation Economic Summit, hosted the CESO vendor fair and has played a crucial role in the management of ongoing construction and infrastructure projects of the Nation.

### **Government Relations**

In the second quarter of FY24, Government Relations attended several events to represent MCN and its interests on the municipal, state, and national level. These events included functions hosted by various municipalities and city chambers, the Tulsa Regional Chamber, the State Chamber. Government Relations was also present at the quarterly Intertribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes, NCAI’s Executive Council Winter Session, the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma quarterly meeting and the quarterly meeting for the Oklahoma Intertribal Tax Association.

This quarter also marked the beginning of the Oklahoma Legislative Session and the second session of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress. Government Relations has been closely reviewing and tracking several pieces of legislation relevant to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Interactions with the current state legislature include the annual Tribal Legislative Reception, in-person conversations, and the monthly Native American Caucus. Interactions with federal offices include interactions with field staff and district offices. They also include participation in a D.C. fly-in hosted by the Tribal Economic Tax Reform Advocacy Alliance (TETRAA) where we were able to converse with a number of different offices and staff about the subjects of tribal tax reform. The Office continues

to establish and maintain a presence with all relevant governmental, business, and political bodies with the goal of continuing the development of productive working relationships with these entities.

### Grants Office

During this quarter, the Grants Office submitted 35 new grant applications totaling \$196,619,686 for 14 different MCN departments, programs, and agencies. It assisted in processing five grant awards for a total of \$1,450,842 benefitting four MCN departments, programs, and agencies. Additionally, the Office provided consultation and compliance assistance to various MCN departments concerning budget processing, performance reviews, compliance, and other grants-related activities.

### Planning Office

In the second quarter of FY 2024, Planning has continued to establish new policies, procedures, and protocols to coordinate infrastructure projects across a number of MCN departments, programs, and agencies. Additionally, Planning provides ongoing technical support for the compliance and fiduciary related responsibilities related to the expenditure of both Tribal and federal funds. As an extension of efforts in Q1, Planning has collaborated with a number of agencies in an effort to improve project management and other procedural challenges within the Nation's project implementation efforts. Planning continues to play a significant role in the vetting, development, and planning of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) proposed projects, and assists the Secretary of the Nation in advising the expenditure of historic federal funds and funding opportunities, in conjunction with the Nation's existing assets, such as land holdings and agribusiness ventures. Planning continues to make progress and manage the Office of Indian Economic Development (OIED) hemp feasibility study grant awarded to MCN in 2023 and to establish the necessary framework for hemp related business ventures. In Q2, Planning kicked off the hemp feasibility study to help determine the key performance indicators within industrial hemp. Planning is looking forward to the opportunities the Nation has coming up in Q3 to Q4.

### Office of Self-Governance

In Q2, the Office of Self Governance expanded the Nation's SG compact to include the Office of the Attorney General, and initiated the transfer of our Tribal Transportation Programs (TTP) from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to the Office of Self Governance (OSG); these measures will increase funding opportunities and internal control over such funds. Additionally, the Office worked with Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to execute the FY22 105(l) lease agreement for MCN's Citizenship Office and draft the following lease agreements for FY23 and FY24. During this quarter, MCN Self-Governance Coordinator, Carson Ball, attended the Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC) conference, Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (SGAC/TSGAC), and National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) executive session in Washington D.C. These conferences and advisory spaces allow for the Office to engage in government-to-government conversations between bureaucratic leaders and Tribal nations regarding consultations, feedback and improvements to federal funding mechanisms, annual budget requests and self-governance infrastructure. At the end of this quarter, the U.S. Congress passed the FY24 CR, resulting in the Office receiving the Nation's FY24 SG distribution from Office of Self Governance (OSG), which included special set-asides for law enforcement and detention services as a response to *McGirt v. Oklahoma* (2020).

### Tribal Utility Authority (TUA)

During Q2, TUA submitted its application for round two of the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (NTIA) Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP). Additionally, in February, the Secretary of the Nation and interim CEO, Zechariah Harjo, provided public

comments with Cox Communications to deliver insights on the impact of the ReConnect grant program offered by the USDA. Approval has been granted for the first project involving removing overhead three-phase lines facilitated by the BIL Grid Resilience Grant. Furthermore, the TUA has completed the installation of an underground conduit to support the emergency room expansion at the Okmulgee Medical Center. Utility support has been provided for various ongoing construction projects, including the Citizens Services Building, Wetumka Child Development Center, and a potential Tribal detention center. In partnership with the MCN Department of Health and Federal Roads, the TUA has been working to secure the necessary right-of-ways to extend fiber connectivity to the behavioral health building in Okmulgee. The Office anticipates funding announcements for the NTIA TBCP round two funding this summer.

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE – Jeff Fife, Chief of Staff, Acting Secretary of  
Commerce**

Office of the Secretary of Commerce

In the second quarter, the Department of Commerce experienced significant planning, research and development with the Nation’s commercial and economic development endeavors. Commerce staff recently participated in the Reservation Economic Summit, the Oklahoma Tribal Finance Consortium, and the Council of Development Finance Agencies Spring Conference, connecting with Tribal, federal and private partners who conduct business across Indian Country. The Office has been integrating a new strategic economic plan and capitalizing on the number of assets across the Reservation in collaboration with the Office of the Secretary of the Nation. This has resulted in a number of capital projects, including the creation of the Muscogee Nation Business Revolving Fund and the approval of the Nation’s State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Application to the U.S. Treasury. The Office has initiated the establishment of a Tribal Citizen Employment Network with the intention to facilitate and promote interest with prospective employers by connecting tribal citizens to a myriad of companies and employment opportunities within the Reservation.

Much of the current market analysis, proposed developments, and partnerships respond to immediate needs within the Reservation, including addressing food deserts, commercial food and co-packing partnerships at Looped Square Meat Processing Facility, and the growing need for a cold storage facility. As part of our ongoing efforts to diversify our economic landscape, the Department of Commerce has continued to foster connections across multiple industries, particularly within agribusiness, Tribal energy, food service and commercial property development.

Fountainhead Creek Golf Course

Fountainhead Creek Golf Course experienced a decent 2nd Quarter. We are currently staffed with 11 full time employees. The Course saw \$15,298.96 in revenue during the 1st Quarter this was a decrease of \$26,230.04 from 2023. Decreased revenue has been anticipated due winter weather and other severe weather-related damage done to the course. Plans for repairing the damages are underway and during the 2nd Quarter we have been spraying the course as needed and doing the necessary mowing. The pumps that water the golf course are functioning 100% now allowing the watering of the entire course, however, other capital developments are pending.

Marketing & Tourism

During the last quarter, the Marketing & Tourism department coordinated a variety of events, assisted 12 departments with graphic design creative requests, initiated the consumer marketing show program, launched the 2024 mural project, and started planning the Muscogee Nation Festival. The Department is also currently planning the Tulsa Oiler’s Muscogee Nation Night event and the Tulsa Driller’s Muscogee Nation Night event for the upcoming quarter, while also assisting the Mvskoke Art Market with print, digital, and billboard advertising. The Department also assisted with the Inauguration, At-Large outreach events, and the commemoration of the Battle of Horseshoe bend in Alabama.

Marketing & Tourism continues to assist fellow MCN departments with creative requests, promotional items, and digital media, while also promoting the Nation as a tourist destination in key target markets. The 2024 mural project was released in March 2024 and multiple artists submitted proposals. This is the 3rd year for the mural project and it continues to grow in popularity within the MCN reservation and our Mvskoke artists. The 2024 mural will be highlighted in an upcoming tourism media campaign that will align our website, branding, and digital footprint. This

media campaign will feature the Mvskoke Art Market, The Festival, and other events such as wild onion dinners and specialty sports nights.

### Mvskoke Loan Fund

The Mvskoke Loan Fund had a productive and historic quarter, and began with a continued partnership with REI and several other Tribal & financial institutions to promote and co-host 18 different virtual classes from February – May. These 18 classes are classified into three different training series titled “Financial Focus”, “Microsoft 365”, and “Financial Empowerment”. Additionally, the Mvskoke Fund was able to deploy \$337,400 total in lending capital to qualified business owners, farmers & ranchers. The Fund also closed its largest single loan to date (\$185,000). The Fund is currently reviewing and finalizing applications, totaling \$285,000.

Recognizing the potential for rapid growth, our Board of Directors recently approved a motion to expand our target market. We now accept loans applications for a member of any federally recognized tribe so long as they live within and/or their business is based in the state of Oklahoma. Staff and leadership are working through a few other key projects including laying the framework for developing an electronic payment mechanism for clients, creating a new revolving fund for a future project, applying for new funding opportunities, and working through audits. Most excitingly, the Mvskoke Fund will be managing and implementing the \$10 million Muscogee Nation Business Revolving Fund, intended to provide Nation-owned subsidiaries and more, access to needed capital, in addition to receiving notice that its request for the EPA’s Clean Communities Investment Accelerator (CCIA) program as a community lender.

### Recreation

The Recreation Department hosted multiple events during this 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. The most recent being the ORES All-Star games, which brought in over 103 participants for a total of 6 basketball games, which resulted in Recreation’s busiest quarter ever, from an events-hosted perspective, including both OSSAA basketball and wrestling events.

Additionally, from January 2024 to March 2024, the Department hosted the following events and celebrations: a drive through food bank, a county basketball tournament, middle school basketball tournaments, multi-class OSSAA playoffs, a CESO job fair, basketball practices, the Spring Celebration, a March Madness middle school basketball tournament, the MCN employee egg hunt, and the Bobby Hunt rodeo. Recreation also has current projects underway that include: renovations to the softball field turf, renovations to the lighting, and the construction of a new stage.

## **DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING – LS Fields, Secretary of Housing**

Admissions Department processed 148 work orders for emergency health and safety needs through the Emergency Repair of Privately Owned Homes. Down Payment and Closing Program approved 5 families for grants. There were 5 closing on homes expending \$125,000. HUD VASH housed 32 Veterans with rental assistance of \$74,115. The Elderly Subsidy assisted 88 elders with rental subsidy of \$151,395. There are 328 on the waiting list for homeownership. Processed zero applications for Tax sale Prevention. Assisted 73 families with rental subsidy through the IHBG-ARP grant expending \$123,045.

Housing Management processed 471 work orders. There were 266 re-certifications processed. There were 720 late notices mailed and 16 successorships are pending. There were 144 inspections completed. Also, there were 63 home visits. The insurance office received 302 calls, 2 cancellations, and there were no additions. There were 30 work orders processed, 9 home visits, and 33 office visits. There were 11 claims processed. *ROSS Program* Coordinator completed the annual report for Grant Solutions in January. Also, assisted with the planning of the upcoming workshop with Tinker Federal Credit Union. Assisted low-income tenants with intake forms and the process of enrolling in the ROSS program. The ROSS Coordinator attend the JOBS Corps Center Webinar in February. The webinar focused on forging partnerships with Job Corps Centers. Posted flyers on Facebook for the upcoming workshop and reached out to the low-income tenants to confirm attendance. The workshop, “Thriving on Low-Income” was held March 21, 2024.

Contract Services issued 23 contracts for major activities such as rehabilitation of homes, rental, and new construction, expending \$1,611,342. There were 145 work agreements processed for minor repairs, expending \$563,697.39. Minor repairs include electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, handicap accessibility, aerobic system repair, and roofing. There was 1 work order for pest control expending \$1,400 during this quarter.

Construction Services received 68 work orders. There were 71 scopes of work completed; 136 evaluate and assess completed; and 34 final inspections completed. The department also received 376 emergency work orders for NAHASDA, Mutual Help, Lease Option, Privately Owned Homes, and rental units.

Force Account completed 283 work orders for the following activities: electrical – 52; Minor Repair - 37; and plumbing - 194 with total material cost of \$57,906.07. Force Acct, also, has open P.O.’s to purchase materials and supplies for projects at various vendors.

Development Department acquisitioned 4 homes this quarter and 2 homes are under contract to close. Our goal is to purchase 10 homes for the fiscal year. There was one (1) new constructed unit completed this quarter. It is located in Muskogee. There are 3 homes in the construction process and 3 homes out for bid. *Sunrise Trail Apartments* remodeling project for the interior of building #1 was completed in February. Building #2 & #3 was bid out for the interior renovation. The project was awarded to Bronze Oak for a cost of \$3,236,334. The contract has been sent to the AG’s office for review. The funds used for this project will be IHBG-ARPA. *Alternative Housing Program* is funded with IHBG-ARPA funds, also. One home has been completed this quarter. Development has completed 5 alternative homes since the beginning of the fiscal year. Two conventional homes are in progress of being built and two are out for bid. Four modular units are in progress of being purchased and setup as alternative homes. *Akhvse Tutcenen (Three Ponds) Project* has a total of 47 cottages that are complete and ready for final cleanup once the water system is on-line. The water system is currently being tested and will be on-line in a couple of weeks. The final 25 cottages lack flooring and final touchups, which will be finished once the gas

service is completed. The gas service was installed during the second quarter and have installed meters to the 47 cottages. The 25 cottages will have meters installed in the next few weeks, at which time all cottages can receive acclimation and the final touches can be completed. *Elders Center (Three Ponds)* is 100% complete. It will need a final cleanup once the utility services are on-line. *Maintenance Building* is at 90% complete. When the utility services are turned on, the building will be completed. *Roads* will be constructed by the Federal Roads Program and they have the design for the road and drainage completed. They are waiting for the USACE's release of jurisdiction. *Housing Annex & Payment Center* is 95% complete. Emeritus Construction will be installing the flooring, millwork, and finishes. The project is scheduled to finish mid-April 2024.

Rental Properties provide low-cost rental housing to Native American Families. There are 317 rental units (1937 Act units) located in Checotah, Eufaula, Okemah, and Okmulgee with two sites. Of those, 279 units are occupied and 38 units are vacant due to repairs or rehab and meth testing. During this quarter, 62 annual re-certifications were processed, 51 annual inspections was conducted, and 300 work orders completed. Checotah has added concrete to trash bin area and handicap ramps. *Rental Apartments* includes Turtle Crossing (Coweta), Sand Springs, and Sapulpa which has a total of 36 units with 34 units occupied and 2 vacant. The site manager has processed 12 annual inspections, and 0 re-certifications, and 26 work orders. Sunrise Trail Apartments have 48 units with 38 units vacant and 10 units occupied. The Sunrise Trail is still in the process of a complete rehab. Building #1 is completed. The site manager has processed 0 re-certification, 0 inspection, and 1 work order.

Elderly Rental Program gives preference to those 62 years and over. There are 54 units located in Okmulgee. Fifty-three (53) units are occupied and 1 unit is vacant. There were 16 annual re-certifications processed, 28 annual inspection, and 70 work orders completed. East Central Electric will be installing LED lighting for the Phillip W Coon residents. Street lights will be brighter and add better security for our elders.



## INDEPENDENT STATUTORY EXECUTIVE AGENCIES

### LIGHTHORSE ADMINISTRATION – Richard Phillips, Lighthorse Police Chief

Under the direction of Chief Phillips, Lighthorse placed the following goals in the Strategic Plan:

The Lighthorse Department has continued education with law enforcement sponsored programs and has 1,408 training hours including in-house and agency wide trainings.

The department is actively seeking 5 Communication Officers, and 16 new grant funded Police Officers positions and 1 Criminal Investigator. The department has a total of 137 employees; 104 sworn officers and 33 civilian personnel.

Lighthorse hired 11 men and women for our new division, CCTV, (Lighthorse Health & Safety/closed circuit Television monitors) their duties will be monitoring the cameras that were placed throughout the Reservation, which includes much of the main Tribal Complex along with Eufaula Dorm, Omniplex, Food Distribution Centers and the Child Care Centers.

The *Records Department* has reported 6,153 Calls for Service for the MCN jurisdiction and other LE agencies. Traffic Stops: 2,246, Arrests: 361, Citations: 593, Domestic Violence: 105, Drug/Narc Violations: 41, Drug/Narc Equipment: 7, Juvenile cases: 194, Juvenile Arrests 15, Juvenile Suicide 1, Report request: 63.

Outside reports received: Reports 190, Citations 30, and Arrests 65.

#### *Communications Department:*

Dispatchers have reported the following: Incident: 857, accident: 42, juvenile calls 193, NCIC entries (including wanted persons, stolen vehicles, missing persons, stolen article, stolen tags, stolen weapons) 149, Arrests: 364, Citations: 330, Impounds: 62, Civil process 5, Protective Orders 28, Call for Service 6,166.

The department has 80 hours of in-service training including: When Seconds Count-Compassion Fatigue, Active Listening and Employee Conflict.

#### *Criminal Investigations:*

The Investigations Division has processed approximately 99 Child Crime cases, 39 Domestic Violence and 67 other Criminal Cases to investigate this quarter consisting of unattended deaths, homicides, arson and other major crimes.

The division would like to welcome two new investigators;

Malissa Beaver and Leonard Lovins

#### Highlights:

Investigation Division located homicide suspect Brett Pigeon and obtained a full confession in relation to a murder he committed in Okmulgee earlier this year; he is currently pending a Federal Indictment for Homicide committed in Indian Country.

Also, Investigators were instrumental in receiving Federal convictions for Homicide on Fredrick Burkhalter and Amy Hall. Ms. Hall received two life sentences plus 240 months.

The departments have well over 200+ training hours.

*Explorers:*

The Explorers have 6 members, 10 youth club members and 7 advisors. The department has held 4 meetings.

*Game Ranger:*

CFS: 100

*SORNA:*

The Department has 1,500+ calls for service, 224 Check Ins, 104 New Registers, 281 Compliance checks, 2 Absconders, Move off Reservation 1, and Total active 700. The SORNA department has 220 training hours.

*Special Operations:*

The Special Operations unit assisted other LE agencies including U.S. Marshals on warrants, Coweta Police Department, Wagoner County EMT, and McIntosh County Sheriff's Office.

The department attending the following training and meetings: Phase 1 & 2 Negotiator School, Firearms training, NTOA High Risk Warrant training. The team have well over 200+ hours of training and average two Swat calls per month.

*Community Relations:*

The department participated and assisted in the following: Missing and Murdered Indigenous, Elders Resource event, participated in the Halloween on the Square, Eufaula Youth Event, Assisted the Dog Rescue Event, Attended the Honor Walk for Foster Care, participated in the Henryetta, Okmulgee and Morris parades, and attended MCN Health DV training.

**OFFICE OF THE TAX COMMISSION – Mary Mashunkashev, Tax Commissioner**

Pursuant to Title 36, Chapter 1 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated, the Tax Commission was created for the orderly development, administration, regulation of taxation and collection of all of the following taxes: Motor Vehicle Registration Tax, Tobacco Tax, Motor Fuel Tax, Sales Tax, Resort Fee, Liquor and Beverage Tax, and Oil and Gas Severance Tax.

- The Tax Commission consists of three divisions: The Motor Vehicle Division, the Tax and Revenue Division, and the VITA/Income Tax Division.
- The Tax Commission currently has 6 office locations: Okmulgee, Wetumka, Okemah, Jenks, Coweta, and Muskogee.

The Tax Commission is currently in the process of Moving into their new Okmulgee office. The scheduled opening date for that office is April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Motor Vehicle

New Tags/Renewals Taxes Collected 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

January	\$289,701.09
February	\$345,777.18
March	<u>\$321,392.12</u>
TOTAL	\$956,870.39

- During the 2nd Quarter our Motor Vehicle Department processed 10,555 requests for Motor Vehicle services.
- The Motor Vehicle department began issuing tags statewide on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. From June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022-March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, our office has issued over 8,000 tags to MCN Citizens that reside outside of the jurisdiction.
- The Motor Vehicle Division hired 1 new employee during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.
- Citizens can renew tags in the office, by mail, online at [mcntags.com](http://mcntags.com), or by drop box.

Tax and Revenue

- The Tax and Revenue Division hired 1 new employee during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

Tobacco Tax Code

License Fees Collected 2nd Quarter

January	\$ 500.00
February	\$ 200.00
March	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 700.00

- Total License fees collected for FY24 as of this date is 4,360.00.

Tobacco Taxes Collected 2nd Quarter

January	\$ 176,382.24
February	\$ 166,170.50
March	<u>\$ 0.00</u> * not collected until the 15 <sup>th</sup> of the following month.
TOTAL	\$ 342,552.74

- Total Tobacco Tax Collected for FY24 as of this date is \$887,059.51.

Motor Fuel Tax Code

- Motor fuel taxes are due quarterly.
- Total Motor Fuel taxes collected for FY24 2nd quarter is estimated to be around \$650,000.

Sales Tax Code

License Fees Collected 2nd Quarter

January	\$ 1545.80
February	\$ 600.00
March	<u>\$ 1283.36</u>
TOTAL	\$ 3429.16

- Total License fees collected for FY24 as of this date is \$13,120.78.

Sales Tax Collected 2nd Quarter

January	\$ 171,760.10
February	\$ 196,540.60
March	<u>\$ 0.00</u> * not collected until the 20 <sup>th</sup> of the following month.
TOTAL	\$ 368,270.70

- Total sales tax collected for FY24 as of this date is \$ 1,004.264.92.

Liquor and Beverage Code

Taxes and Fees Collected 2nd Quarter

January	\$ 56,103.99
February	\$ 67,527.39
March	<u>\$ 0.00</u> * not collected until the 20 <sup>th</sup> of the following month.
TOTAL	\$123,631.38

- Total Liquor and Beverages tax collected for FY24 as of this date is \$298,404.08.

VITA/Income Tax

- The VITA program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) prepares and electronically files free federal and state individual income tax returns for low to moderate income individuals.
- The TCE program (Tax Counseling for the Elderly) prepares and electronically files free federal and state individual income tax returns for individuals that are age 60 and over and meet the income guidelines.

Tax Returns processed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

<u>2023 TAX YEAR</u>	<u>TCE</u>	<u>VITA</u>	<u>TOTAL ACCEPTED</u>
<u>2023</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>340</u>

**OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING – Tracy Burris, Executive Director**

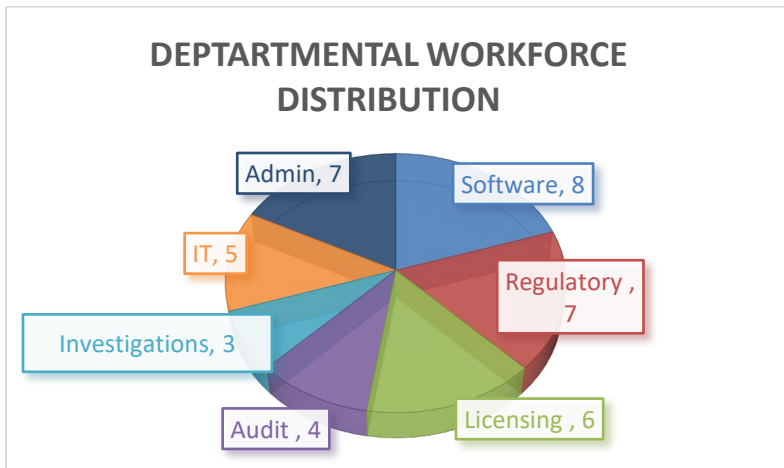
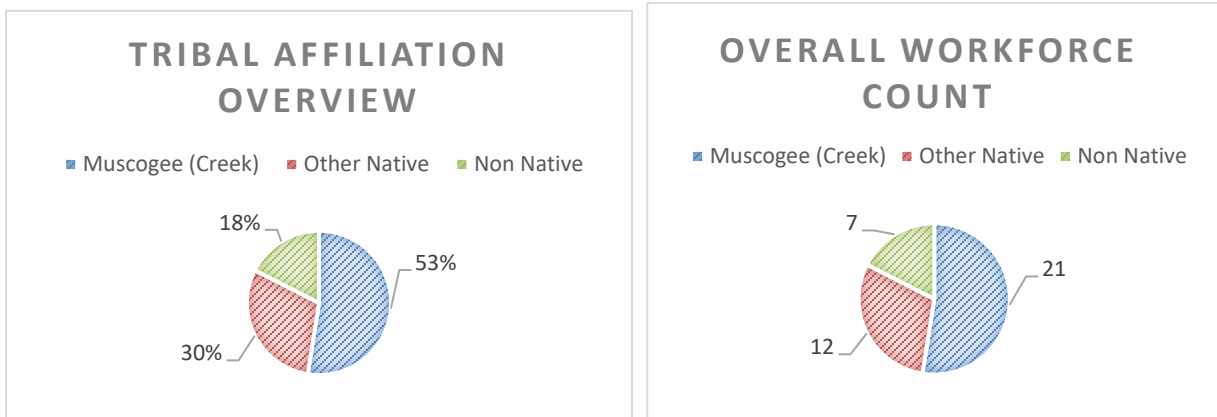
The Office of Public Gaming (OPG) is dedicated to upholding the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and security in regulating all gaming activities within the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN). As an independent agency, our three-person Gaming Commission, led by the Executive Director, oversees the daily operations of the OPG.

Our mission is to promote and ensure the integrity and lawful administration of all gaming facilities under the MCN. The OPG is committed to fostering collaboration with casino operations, tribal gaming regulatory agencies, and the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) to establish effective regulatory frameworks for MCN gaming.

Comprising six distinct sub-divisions and operating from multiple office sites, the OPG takes responsibility for licensing casino employees and vendors, ensuring gaming systems' compliance, monitoring all gaming activities, implementing surveillance measures, and handling quasi-judicial administrative functions associated with regulating the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s gaming activities.

With unwavering dedication, the OPG seeks to enhance the regulatory landscape, contributing to the prosperity and sustainability of MCN gaming while maintaining the highest standards of fairness, transparency, and public trust.

**Workforce Overview**



### Software

Between January 1st and March 31st, 2024, our department successfully facilitated the installation and conversion of 660 Class II and Class III gaming machines within the Muscogee Nation jurisdiction. Additionally, we aided the casinos in breaking seals for 1098 machines during the last quarter. In total, our assistance extended to 1758 machines. This equates to an average of 19.5 machines per day over the three-month period.

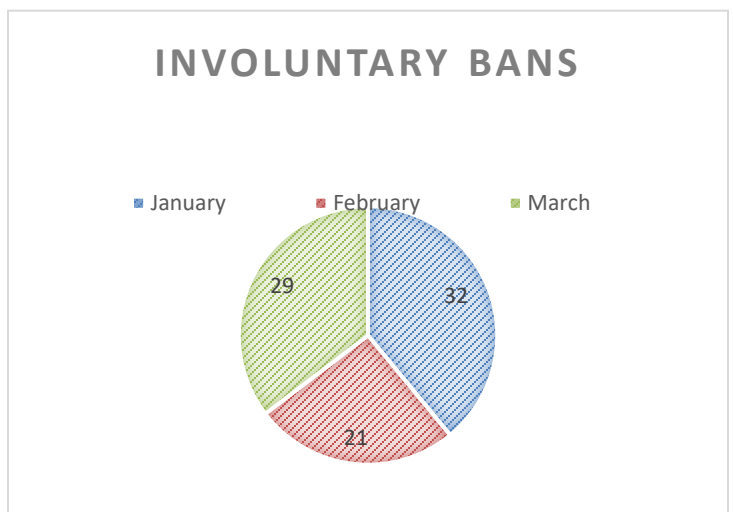
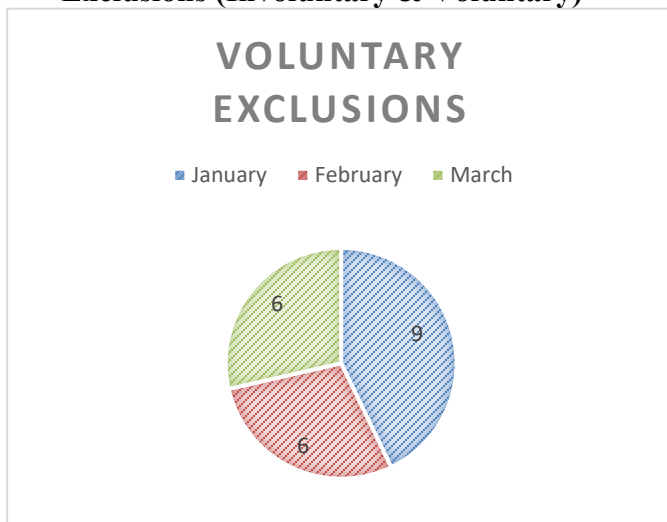
### Regulatory

Throughout the quarter, the Regulatory Department addressed various operational challenges that required our attention and resolution in collaboration with operations. Notably, a significant portion of our agents participated in the NTGCR training sessions, demonstrating our commitment to upholding regulatory standards. Additionally, all department members, including the Regulatory Supervisor, diligently attended the NIGC webinars, further enhancing our understanding of regulatory requirements.

Throughout the quarter, our department facilitated various approvals, including the destruction of keys, the removal of locks for destruction, and approval for shredding. Signifying our proactive approach to compliance and risk management. Furthermore, the Regulatory Department successfully completed evaluations for four new hires within the stipulated 60-day timeframe and promptly submitted the assessments. Demonstrating our dedication to ensuring the competence and effectiveness of our team.

In conclusion, despite encountering challenges, the Regulatory Department remained vigilant in upholding regulatory standards, fostering compliance, and facilitating the integration of new personnel into our team. We look forward to continuing our efforts to maintain operational excellence and regulatory compliance in the upcoming quarter.

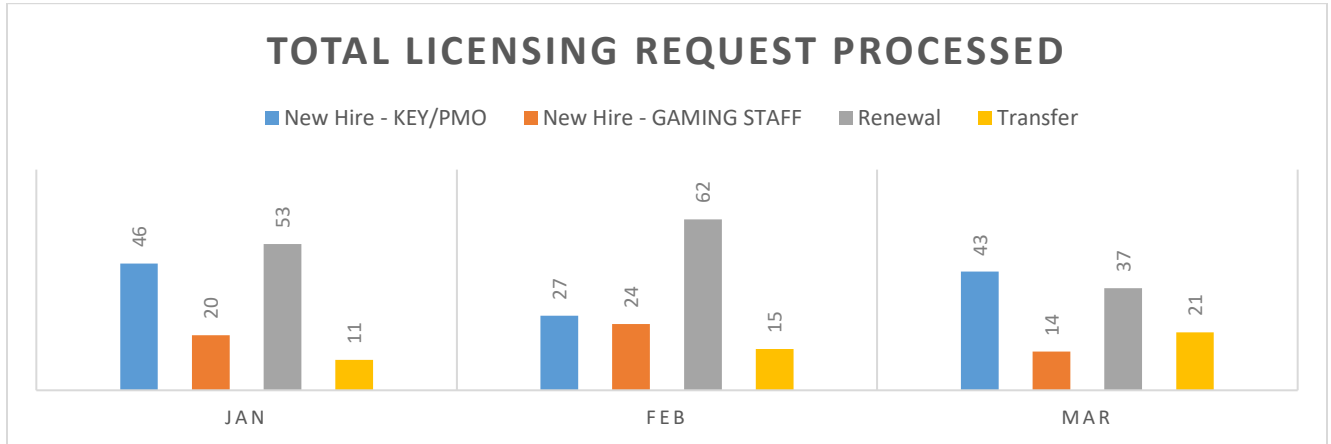
### **Exclusions (Involuntary & Voluntary)**



- Patron requests to lift voluntary exclusion to Gaming Commission – 17
- Patron requests to lift involuntary exclusion to Gaming Commission – 0
- Patron requests to lift statewide self-exclusions by Gaming Commission – 11

- Excluded patron requests to pay jackpot by Gaming Commission – 2

## Licensing



The licensing department successfully handled 268 new/renewal applications for employee gaming, processed 47 transfer of position requests, and issued a total of 80 employee gaming licenses, along with 4 vendor employee licenses. Additionally, 111 applicants were submitted to the National Indian Gaming Commission for review, and 163 separated employees were processed. The department also completed 282 license verifications for various regulatory agencies. Successfully introduced OPG onboarding presentations for operations HR. Ensured all fingerprint machines were updated in accordance with CAU LASO Notification dated January 9, 2024. The deadline for Phase II implementation was met by March 31st. Completed the update of licensing software Pryme to version 5.12. Distributed updated Licensing Regulations to all licensees in compliance with tribal gaming code requirements.

## Internal Audit

Throughout the quarter, Internal Auditors concluded 200 audits and examined 157 casino operations promotions. Key areas inspected during this quarter include:

- WAP Fees
- Players' Club Account Review
- P-Card Audit
- Accounts Payable Review

During this quarter, the OPG-IA suggested that the Shared Services SICS undergo an update to align with the latest practices in procurement card reconciliation, approvals, and limits. Changes in the accounting systems have rendered the current process outlined in the approved SICS obsolete.

## **Information Technology**

Throughout this quarter, the Information Technology department achieved significant milestones and successfully completed various projects, including:

Closed 396 Support Tickets

Transitioned from AT&T Mobile to FirstNet

Went Live with Licensing Lookup for All Affiliated Tribes

Updated Livescan Software at all Properties to meet New Security Requirements

Continuation of Tenant-to-Tenant Migration Project

Upgraded Pryme to V5.12

Transitioned to VEEAM for Backup Solution

## **MUSCOGEE NATION BUSINESSES, LLC – Vivian McCutchen, CEO**

The Muscogee Nation Businesses, LLC was formed in 2015 under the Nation’s Limited Liability Company Act as a holding company. The holding company has the following subsidiaries in various stages of development, formation and certification(s) held.

Muscogee Staffing Solutions, LLC- In Operation  
Muscogee Arora JV, LLC- In Operation (Joint Venture of Muscogee Staffing Solutions, LLC)  
Muscogee Business Services, LLC- In Operation  
Muscogee Asset Protection, LLC- In Operation  
Muscogee Distribution & Logistics, LLC- fully formed, not in operation  
Muscogee Manufacturing, LLC- fully formed, not in operation  
Muscogee Development Co., LLC-fully formed, not in operation

Muscogee Staffing Solutions, LLC –For QTR 2, Muscogee Staffing Solutions focused on execution of existing government contracts and completed the Annual Update as required by the SBA. Due to the large number of contract awards secured by Muscogee Staffing in the Federal market, and a decrease in commercial placements, the business activity target was not met. Muscogee Staffing will focus on competitive bids to reach set targets.

In QTR 2, MSS submitted 9 Federal proposals and gained 2 new commercial clients.

MSS has open employment opportunities that can be applied to directly from the MSS Website, [www.mstaffsolutions.net](http://www.mstaffsolutions.net).

MSS Commercial attended the following networking events for Business Development efforts.

January 31<sup>st</sup>, Tulsa Welding School/ Job Fair- Tulsa, OK  
February 14<sup>th</sup>, College of the Muscogee Nation/ Job Fair- Okmulgee, OK  
March 6<sup>th</sup>, Oklahoma Workforce/ Job Fair- Tulsa, OK  
March 11<sup>th</sup>, MCN Resource Fair- Kellyville, OK

Muscogee Asset Protection, LLC – HubZone Certified, 8(a) Certified.

Muscogee Asset Protection, LLC had a small backlog of projects in QTR 2. This entity had 7 projects on-going throughout QTR 2. MAP has also submitted 10 proposals in QTR 2.

Muscogee Asset Protection, LLC’s 8 (a) application had been submitted to the SBA in mid-February 2023 and has responded to additional information requests. MAP attended the RES 2024 Conference; MAP met with the SBA and received an onsite approval for the 8A certification.

MAP submitted its Business Plan to the SBA and it was approved in QTR 2, and MAP also obtained bonding during QTR 2.

### **Company Census**

Total Employees: 355  
Muscogee Creek: 25  
Other Tribal 01

### **By Entity:**

Muscogee Nation Businesses, LLC: 9



Muscogee Asset Protection, LLC:	3
Muscogee Business Services, LLC:	1
Muscogee Staffing Solutions, LLC:	342
	6 Corporate
	306 Contract Employees
	30 Temporary Placements

Board Meetings - Muscogee Nation Businesses, LLC held the following Board Meetings QTR 2, FY 2024. Current composition is 4 Members, 1 Vacancy, all current members are Muscogee.

January 25, 2024- Regular Board Meeting  
 February 5, 2024- Special Board Meeting  
 February 20, 2024- Special Board Meeting  
 February 29, 2024- Regular Board Meeting  
 March 28, 2024- Regular Board Meeting

All meetings are posted and open to the public.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> QTR 2024, the distribution made to the Nation will total \$30,000.00.

The Board heard 1 proposal for a Joint Venture Opportunity. The Board turned down 1 acquisition opportunity for Real Estate (Office Location).

OTHER-

- Legal Counsel reviewed draft changes to social media and Recording Policies. During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter regular board meetings, the Board of Directors approved all updated Policies.
- MNB Transitioned MNB, LLC Employees to the Nation’s medical benefits for a January 1, 2024 effective date.
- MNB, LLC is closing out FY 23 Audit.

## **OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS – Grover Wind, Veterans Affairs Director**

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) plans, organizes, coordinates, reviews, submits, and reconciles Muscogee veterans and surviving spouses’ claims for the receipt of earned benefits and services administered through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) and provided auxiliary services for additional support.

During the 2nd quarter of the fiscal year 2024, the VASO has provided claim support and assisted with related inquiries for veterans and family members,

### Other activities:

- Continued to assist veterans and families with new disability claims and disability increases with new claims.
- Made home visits to veterans and/or surviving spouses to assist them in filing disability claims.
- Assisted veterans on a walk-in basis regarding their situations.
- Set up meetings with Outside Service Agencies to see how we can better serve our veterans.
- Assist with referrals to other MCN departments and outside resources.
- Hosted monthly Veterans Coffee and Doughnut day.
- Continued to update digital records of veterans served through VASO.
- Working with architect company for plans for Muscogee Veterans Cemetery.
- Developed Tribal Cemetery Policy & Procedures.
- Attended as many Veteran’s funerals as possible.
- Discussing and establishing new ways to reach out to our veterans.
- Mvskoke Riders participating in Muscogee Veterans cemetery escort.
- Maintaining VASO Face Book with weekly informational updates about program eligibility, veteran’s benefits, community resources, upcoming events, and a virtual tour of the facility and collections.
- Continuing to develop our website to inform veterans and citizens about departmental services.
- Coordinated with the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) to reconcile benefits and claim applications for veterans and surviving family members.
- Currently planning “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans” ceremony for June, 10, 2024.
- Currently planning future Outreach events.
- Looking for grants that will enable us to further assist our Muscogee Creek Veterans.
- Researching funding for additional office space to veterans building.
- Placed another companion dog in Therapy dog program.
- Still working on design of valorous awards and branch license plates.
- Beginning preparation for Veterans Stand-Down event in Sept 2024.
- Preparations for Women’s Veteran’s Summit in Oct 2024.
- Beginning planning for remodel of Veteran’s museum.
- Sponsored Veteran’s Benefit Concert in Feb 2024.
- Currently planning for Muscogee Veteran’s Honor Flight in June 2024.

**INDEPENDENT CONSTITUTIONAL EXECUTIVE AGENCIES**

**MVSKOKE MEDIA – Angel Ellis, Director**

In the Second quarter of FY24 Mvskoke Media brought in \$78,995.10 in program income. The department’s radio specialist Gary Fife passed away in January. The position is being reorganized to reflect the updated format of the multi-media platforms. Currently the department is hiring two news staff and one graphic designer. In order to implement strategic goals and organizational processes the Mvskoke Media Editorial Board has approved the addition of a consultant. The news team helped organize and participate in the Tulsa Mayoral election forum to bring questions relevant to the Mvskoke Nation for the first time.

Mvskoke News

Mvskoke News is currently serving 6,528 citizen households with a copy of the newspaper twice per month. The department serves 298 individual subscribers with a digital newsletter. Currently there are 6,003 subscribers to the Mvskoke Media Youtube channel and 21,386 facebook subscribers. Mvskoke News has an average post reach of 37,916, a post engagement of 9,408. For the quarter we had 95 new page likes, 139 new followers.

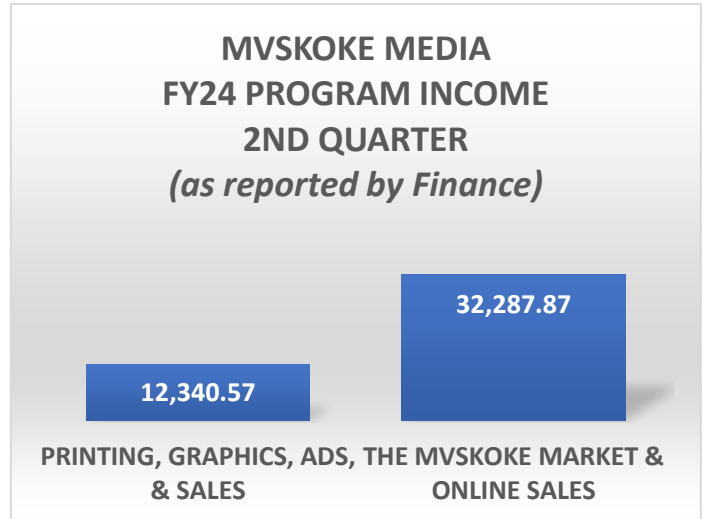
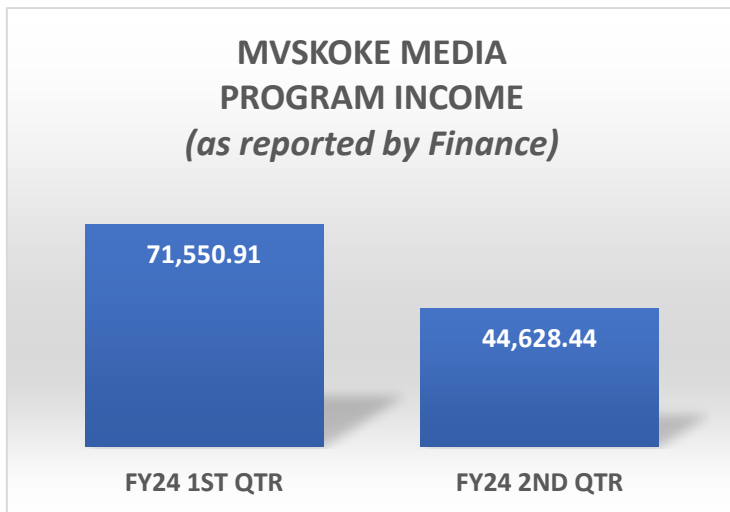
Mvskoke Creative

Total revenue for Mvskoke Creative was \$40,190.98 for the second quarter, of which \$36,191.00 were graphic design and printing services and \$3,999.80 was advertising sales. The department billed MCN departments \$26,064.84 and external clients \$14,126.14. Expenditures for creative supplies in the 2nd quarter were \$4,709.88.

Mvskoke Market

The total revenue between the Mvskoke Markets for the 2nd quarter is \$38,804.12, with a total \$2,105.64, to be paid to the MCN tax commission.

The gross profit margin is 52.70% and had 2,852 transactions, which consisted of 5,947 items sold over the three-month period. The five top selling items were Sale Item – Assorted-15, Blanket – Full Plush, Blanket – Baby Plush, Can Soda – Dr. Pepper, and Blanket – Queen Plush.



## **CITIZENSHIP BOARD – Nathan Wilson, Citizenship Board Director**

The Citizenship Board office is governed by a Citizenship Board consisting of five members. This office provides services to citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma or to potential citizens in giving direction or assisting in the lineage verification process of the Muscogee (Creek) people. The mission of this office is to verify the lineage of descendants of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood that is listed on the 1906 Dawes Roll.

To date 775 citizens have received Enhanced Tribal Cards.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of FY 2024 the Citizenship office performed remote services in Wetumka, Oklahoma City, and Siloam Springs.

The Citizenship Office is currently working on a program to provide Enhanced Tribal Card Services for other tribes.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of FY 2024 the Citizenship office has provided services to 10,122 Citizens. We have replaced 2,743 Citizenship cards, replaced 165 CDIB cards, issued 601 new Citizenship cards, 372 new CDIB cards and received 4,915 phone calls. Our Total Tribal Enrollment is 101,229 as of March 31, 2024.

The Citizenship Board meetings are held twice a month. The Citizenship Board Members are: Elizabeth Yahola, Clarence Johnson, Lea Ann Nix, Jason Nichols and Cecelia Wittman.

**ELECTION BOARD – Nelson Harjo, Jr., Office Manager**

This year the Election Board is looking to host voter registration drives for both Tribal and state registration. When plans for these events are finalized the Election Board will release announcements for dates, times, and locations. The Election Board encourages all Muscogee (Creek) citizens to register to vote with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and with their residential county or state. The Office of the Election Board is continuously updating voter registration information. For voters that have had a change of residence or changes to any other piece of their information please contact the Election Office and request those changes be performed to your voter registration.

The following are the registered voter totals for each district of Muscogee (Creek) Nation as of April 1, 2024:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>VOTER TOTAL</u>
Creek	2,213
Kowetv	911
McIntosh	2,065
Muskogee	1,359
Okfuskee	1,745
Okmulgee	4,380
Tukvptce	1,509
Tulsa	3,957

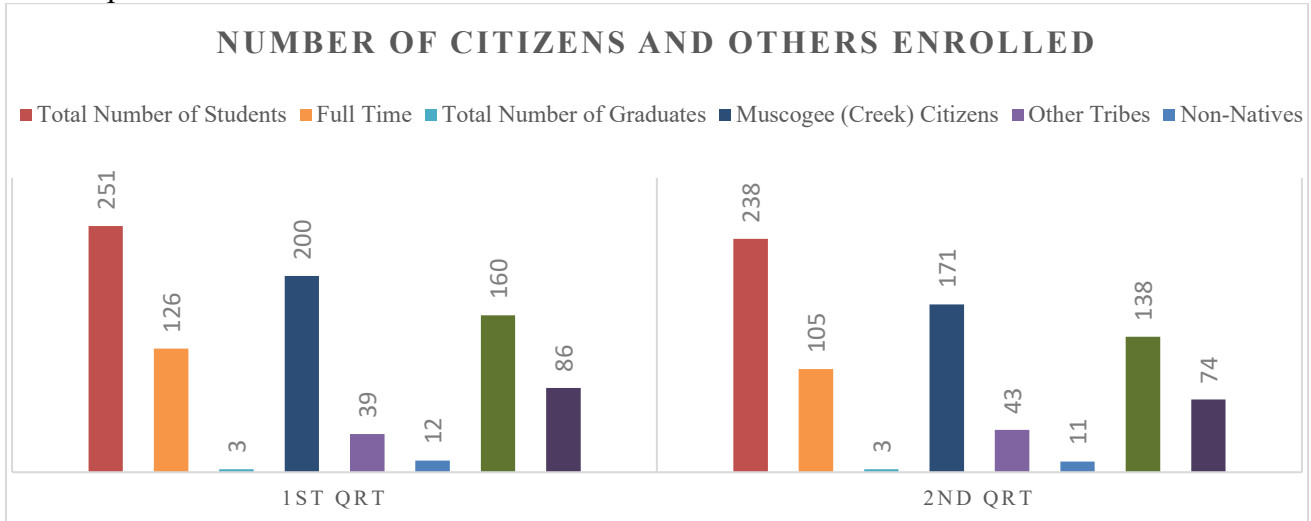
The Election Board: Chairperson - Sara Barnett, Vice Chair - Selina Jayne-Dorman, Secretary - Lucinda Myers, Nolen Robinson and, Andrea James. Manager of the Election Board - Nelson Harjo Jr. For questions or concerns contact the Election Board Office at 918-732-7631 or email us at [election@mcn-election.com](mailto:election@mcn-election.com). The Election Board website can be found at <https://www.muscogeenation.com/services/election-board/>. Please follow us on Facebook @ Muscogee Creek Nation Election Office for the latest information and announcements.

**COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION BOARD OF REGENTS -**  
**Monte Randall, CMN President**

The College of Muscogee Nation is a trimester institution. To be consistent with the quarterly report the Fall Trimester data will be included as 4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter information. The Spring Trimester data will be included as 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter information. The Summer Trimester data will be included as 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter information.

**Number of Citizens and Others Enrolled**

The college has enrolled 171 Muscogee (Creek) students for the second quarter, 43 students were enrolled as other Native tribes, and 11 non-native students. We had a cumulative enrollment of 238 students for the Spring Trimester of those 238 students 138 were female, 74 were male, and 13 not specified.

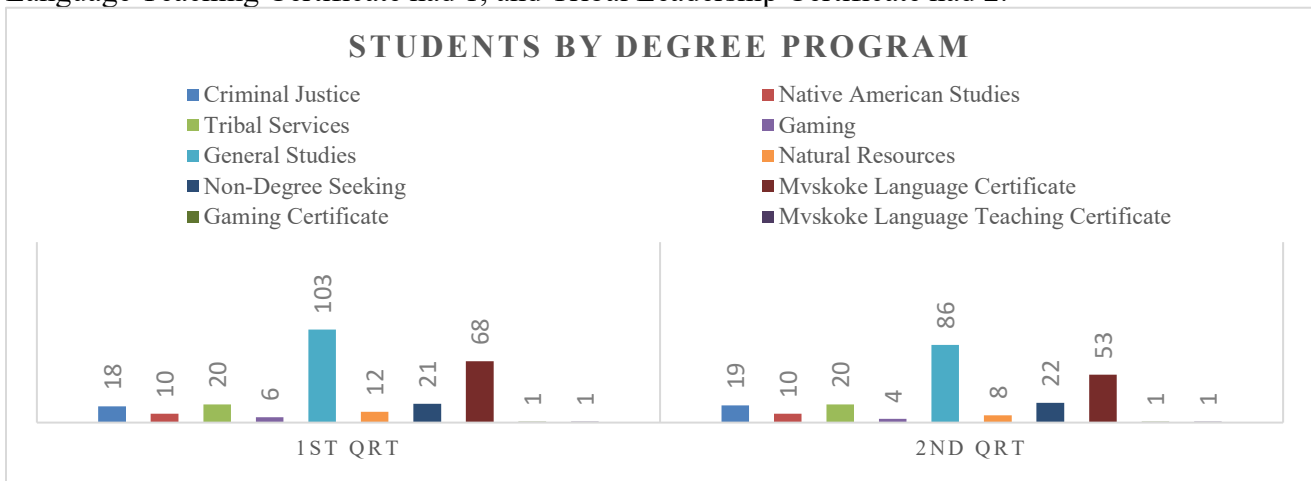


Source: CMN Enrollment Management, Research Specialist 04/2024

**Number of Graduates and students by Major**

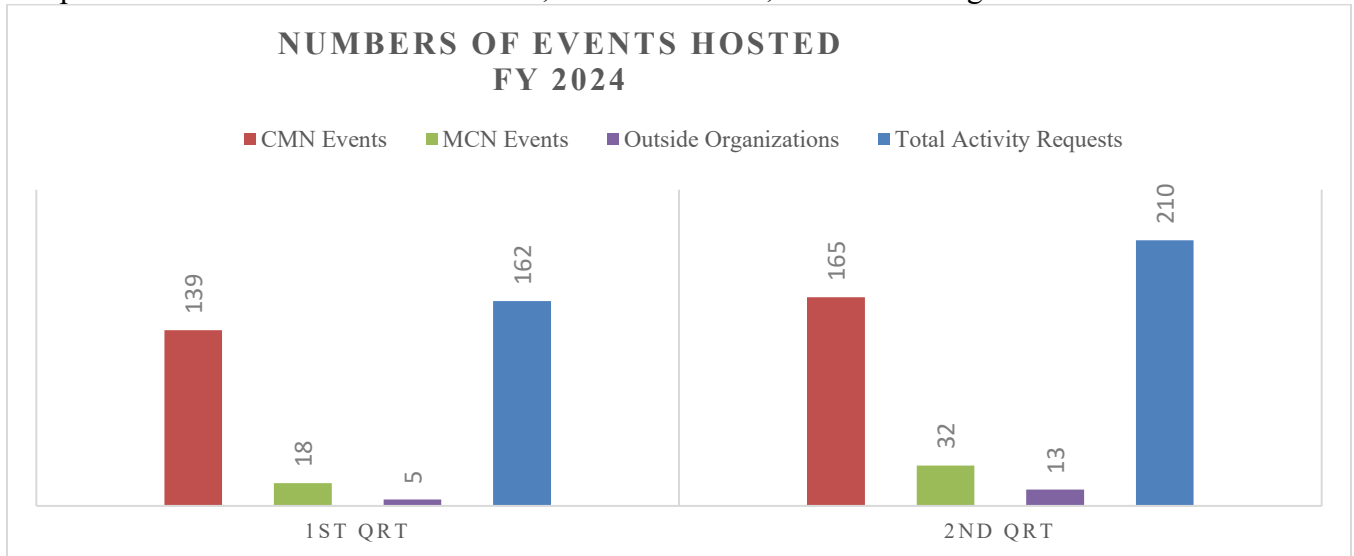
There were 3 graduates during the Fall Trimester in the second quarter of FY2024. During the second quarter, CMN had a total of 105 full-time and 133 part-time students enrolled.

The Spring Trimester enrollment based on six-degree programs and four certificate programs are as follows: Criminal Justice had 19, Native American Studies had 10; Tribal Services had 20; Gaming had 4, General Studies had 86; Natural Resources had 8, Non-degree seeking had 22. The Mvskoke Language Certificate program had 53, Gaming Certificate had 1, Mvskoke Language Teaching Certificate had 1, and Tribal Leadership Certificate had 2.



### Number of Events Hosted

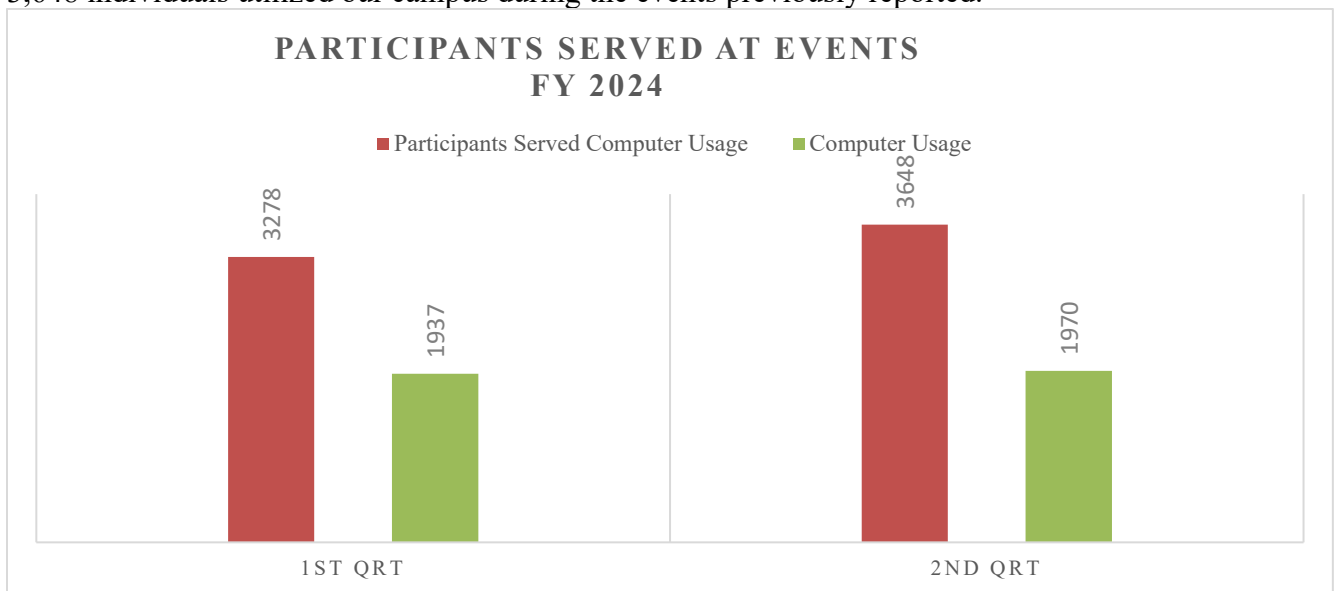
For the second quarter of FY2024, or spring trimester, the number of events held on the CMN campus was as follows: CMN Events 165, MCN Events 32, and Outside Agencies 13.



Source: CMN Executive Assistant's Office, Research Specialist 04/2024

### Participants Served at Events

The number of Participants Served during the events hosted in the second quarter CMN indicates 3,648 individuals utilized our campus during the events previously reported.



Source: CMN Executive Assistant's Office, Research Specialist 04/2024



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