## Muscogee (Creek) Nation Launches \$20.1 Million Small Business Capital Fund to Boost Economic Growth and Job Creation

New loan, collateral, and equity programs will provide critical capital access to underserved small businesses and support economic diversification

FOR RELEASE, May 27, 2025 -- Muscogee (Creek) Nation, OKLA -The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is proud to announce the launch of its \$20,168,057 Muscogee Nation Capital Fund, made possible through the U.S. Treasury's State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). The Nation will operate three key programs, including a Loan Participation Program (LPP), a Collateral Support Program (CSP), and a Equity Direct Program. These programs have been designed to provide essential access to capital for Muscogee (Creek) Nation small businesses that have traditionally faced barriers in securing financing.

The Muscogee Nation Capital Fund closed its first loan in partnership with the Mvskoke Loan Fund. The loan, made to a Muscogee Citizen, supports the purchase of land and equipment in the amount of \$350,000. This represents the single largest loan made by the Mvskoke Fund in its history.

"The launch of the Muscogee Nation Capital Fund represents a transformative step in the ongoing effort to build a diverse and resilient economy for our citizens," said David Hill, Chief of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. "This initiative is an investment in the future of our people—helping entrepreneurs, small businesses, and startups thrive while honoring our cultural values of collaboration and mutual support."

## **Key Program Features:**

- Loan Participation Program (LPP): This program will allow small businesses to access financing through local lending institutions, with the Fund participating in the loans to mitigate risk for lenders and make capital more accessible for borrowers. This partnership will help small businesses obtain the necessary funds for growth and expansion.
- Collateral Support Program (CSP): The CSP will provide collateral assistance to businesses, helping them secure loans that they might otherwise struggle to obtain due to limited collateral. By bridging this gap, the program will improve access to capital for a wide range of small businesses, including those in underserved sectors.
- Equity Direct Program: The Equity Direct Program will provide direct equity investments to small businesses, with a focus on supporting start-ups and fostering long-term economic sustainability in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This program will help businesses in their early stages to gain traction, particularly in industries critical to the Nation's diversification goals.

By improving access to capital, the programs will empower businesses to expand, create jobs, and develop a sustainable, diversified economic base. Additionally, the programs will help businesses build stronger relationships with lenders, improve their creditworthiness, and establish a foundation for long-term financial success.

The Muscogee Nation Capital Fund, working in partnership with the Mvskoke Loan Fund to provide technical assistance is expected to have a broad and lasting impact on the Nation's economy. By providing small businesses with the tools they need to succeed, the programs will help diversify the Nation's economic base, reduce dependence on any single industry, and increase employment opportunities for Muscogee (Creek) citizens. For additional information visit https://www.mcncapitalfund.com/.

## About the SSBCI and creation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capital Fund

The State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI), reauthorized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in 2021, is a key federal program designed to enhance access to capital for small businesses. With \$500 million specifically allocated to Tribal Governments, SSBCI enables Tribes like the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to create customized programs that provide loans, equity investments, and collateral support to underserved businesses.

The Muscogee Nation Capital Fund, which will be administered by Development Capital Networks (DCN), will leverage this funding to directly support small businesses across a range of industries, from agriculture and technology to retail and service industries. The program is aimed at increasing entrepreneurship, creating jobs, and supporting the long-term economic self-sufficiency of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

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## **About Muscogee (Creek) Nation**

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a sovereign Native American tribe located in Oklahoma with over 103,000 citizens. With a proud heritage and a deep commitment to the welfare of its people, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to strengthen its economy and preserve its culture through strategic development and investment in key sectors like healthcare, education, economic diversification, and cultural preservation. With a focus on empowering its citizens and building a resilient future, the Muscogee Nation remains dedicated to providing opportunities for growth and self-sufficiency for all its members.