



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2025-74

National Native American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, the month of November provides a special opportunity to celebrate the diverse histories and cultures of Native American Indians and honor Tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, Native American Heritage Month began as a day of recognition of American Indians in 1915, it is now an annual recognition, marked with educational and celebratory activities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans have fortified our County with their traditions and values, making tremendous contributions to various aspect of our lives; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans are business owners, creating jobs for American workers; teachers educating our children; first responders assisting neighbors in need; and leaders serving their communities; and

WHEREAS, this observance acknowledges the importance of education, preservation and awareness in fostering understanding of Native American Heritage and the lasting influence of indigenous communities in our County; and

WHEREAS, the Piscataway Indians, indigenous to Southern Maryland, continue to reside and thrive in areas where first contact was made with the English colonists in the early 1600's and were major contributors in agriculture, housing, fishing, and hunting in the region, which was invaluable to the first Europeans in America; and

WHEREAS, Charles County values our tribal communities, and supports their voice in our local, state, and national policy discussions and welcome them in the spirit of respect and partnership.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim November 2025 as **National Native American Heritage Month** in Charles County and encourage all residents to celebrate and learn more about the history, culture and contribution of Native Americans.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, Ed.D.
District 3



Attest:

John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners