



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2023-82

### National Native American Heritage Month

**WHEREAS**, the month of November of every year provides a special opportunity to celebrate the diverse histories and cultures of Native American Indians; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans have fortified our country with their traditions and values, making tremendous contributions to every aspect of our life; and

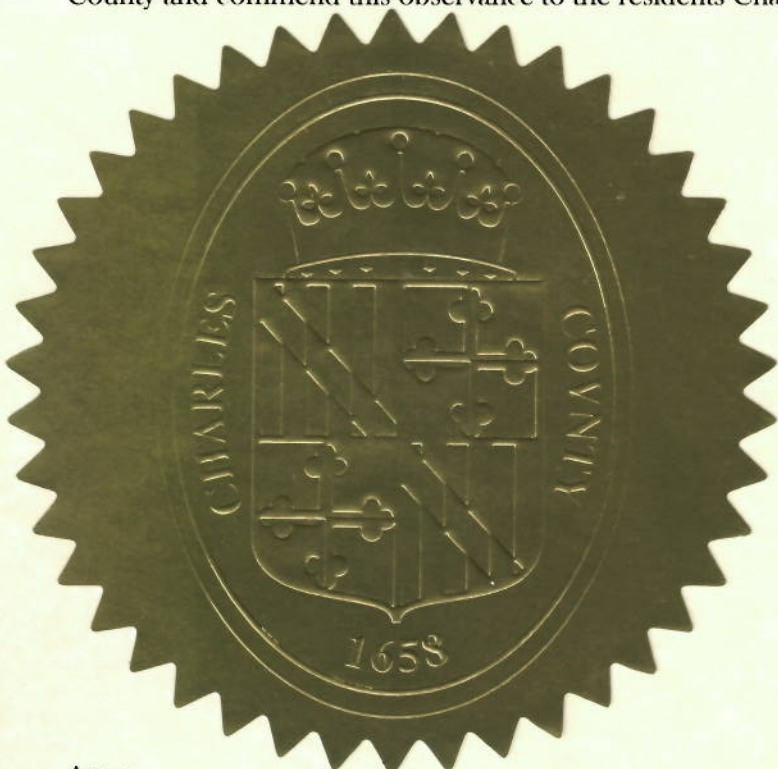
**WHEREAS**, Native Americans are business owners creating good jobs for American workers; teachers educating our children; first responders assisting neighbors in need; and leaders serving their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the vital role that cultural heritage plays in strengthening families and communities cannot be overstated, and it is necessary to recognize and reflect upon the influence of our Nation's native people; 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 2023 as **National Native American Heritage Month** in Charles County and commend this observance to the residents Charles County.



### 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, M.Ed.  
District 3

Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners