As descendants of a segment of the original Creek Nation, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians have a rich heritage. This nation once covered most of Alabama and Georgia, and can trace its roots to the Paleo-Indian period. Our ancestors lived along the Alabama, Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, including areas from Wetumpka south to the Tensaw settlement. The Treaty of Fort Jackson, in 1814, forever changed the face of the great Creek Nation, as more than 21 million acres of Creek Indian land were ceded to the United States. In 1830, the historic Indian Removal Act imposed the resettlement of the Creek Nation from the remaining lands to present-day Oklahoma; this journey is known as The Trail of Tears. However, several Creek leaders and their families, because of their service in protecting Creek and White settlers, received land grants, in 1814 and again in 1836, which became the home of today’s Poarch Band of Creek Indians in southern Alabama.

In 1984, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians became the only federally recognized Tribe in the state of Alabama.

Through the turn of the 20th century, the Poarch settlement was largely ignored and increasingly impoverished. In the 1940s, Tribal leaders took action to improve community conditions and educational opportunities, and, in 1950, more formal leadership was re-established, with a dedicated leader of a formal governing body. Currently, there are more than 2,900 members of the Tribe who possess at least ¼ Poarch Creek blood quantum. The Reservation is located eight miles northwest of Atmore, Alabama, in rural Escambia County, and 57 miles northeast of Mobile. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians has fought hard to preserve its proud heritage while moving forward into the mainstream of today’s modern society. The Tribe’s determination to maintain both its identity and inherent right to self-government is evident by its continued efforts to preserve its Tribal culture and improve its community.
COMMUNITY

MANY PEOPLE. ONE PURPOSE.

Our community is far bigger than just our Tribe. We work, play, go to school and raise our families with our fellow Alabamians. Our community is far bigger than just our Tribe. We work, play, go to school and raise our families with our fellow Alabamians. In fact, Tribal Government has donated and provided scholarships of more than $75,000,000 (since 2013).

EDUCATION

The Education Department oversees three federal programs: the Johnson-O’Malley (JOM) Program, the Adult Education Program and a library program made available by a grant from The Institute of Museum and Library Services. The department provides services that include after-school tutoring, GED classes, college assistance, computer classes, leadership classes and on-the-job training. This department is also responsible for administering the Fred L. McChee Tuition Assistance educational scholarship program.

FAMILY SERVICES

The Family Services Department promotes self-sufficiency and well being through a variety of services that range from investigation of child abuse/neglect to crisis intervention for families and children. Services are available to enrolled members of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, members of a federally recognized tribe and members of an enrolled household.

HEALTH

Established in 1984, the Poarch Creek Indian Health Program operates a full-service, outpatient clinic that provides health, medical, dental and pharmacy services to Poarch Creek Indians and First-Generation descendants up to age 19. In addition, the PCI Health Program oversees the Women, Infant and Children program (WIC) that is contracted through the state of Alabama.

HOUSING

The Poarch Creek Indian Housing Department helps to provide adequate housing opportunities to eligible Tribal Members. The Housing Department manages five rental subdivisions with a total of 95 family units and 44 senior citizen rental units. The Tribally Assisted Home Ownership (TAHO), Rehabilitation, Renovation Loans, and Section 184 Indian Loan programs are a few of the many services offered by the Housing Department. Currently 300 Tribal Members have utilized the TAHO program to finance and build homes of their own.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians’ Tribal Police Department is the primary law enforcement agency for the Poarch Creek Indian Reservation and operates under the Special Law Enforcement Commission of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). We have law enforcement agreements with the following agencies: the Escambia County Sheriff’s Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department, the Elmore County Sheriff’s Department, and the City of Wetumpka Police Department. Tribal Police also participate in the 21st Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force and the Elmore County Drug Task Force. The department is proud to also provide law enforcement services for the surrounding community.

TRIBAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (EMA)

The Tribal Emergency Management Department has become stronger and undergone vast growth since it opened in 2017. Today, the department includes firefighters, paramedics and emergency medical technicians. The department has participated in and received certification in courses that range from Confined Space to Advanced EMT. The Department provides emergency services to the Tribal Community and the surrounding area with two 24-hour fully-staffed and equipped fire stations.

TRIBAL JUDICIAL SYSTEM

The Tribal Judicial System was established in 1987, when the Tribe was awarded a one-year Tribal Court contract by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The judicial power of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians is vested exclusively in its Tribal Judicial System. The Court consists of three jurisdictional units: a Supreme Court, Tribal Court, and a Court of general jurisdiction. The overall goal of the Tribal Judicial System is to institutionalize the rule of the law to enhance the Tribe’s capability to provide judicial services to its Tribal Members. The Tribal Judicial System is an important exercise of the Tribe’s sovereignty.

CREEK INDIAN ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CIEDA)

As the economic development and management arm of the Tribe, Creek Indian Enterprises Development Authority (CIEDA) owns, invests in, and provides executive oversight for an array of businesses in many different markets, including, but not limited to, hospitality, food service, recreation, entertainment and amusement, manufacturing, technology, and retail.

PCI GAMING AUTHORITY

The Tribe owns four destination gaming resorts: Wind Creek Casino & Hotel in Atmore, Wind Creek Casino & Hotel in Montgomery, Wind Creek Casino & Hotel in Wetumpka, and Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino in Oranjestad, Aruba. All four facilities offer a variety of amenities, including luxury hotel accommodations, a variety of dining options, and beverage bar service.

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