

CHOCTAW NATION

SMALL BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2022





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## **MISSION**

To the Choctaw proud, ours is the sovereign nation offering opportunities for growth and prosperity.

## **VISION**

Living out the Chahta spirit of faith, family and culture.

## PROGRAM FOCUS

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Choctaw Small Business Development (CSBD) is proud to be a single-source entry point for Choctaw tribal entrepreneurs (Chahtapreneur) within the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma reservation. CSBD delivers professional and personalized business advising and technical assistance to existing and/or start-up businesses and provides problem-solving techniques to help improve strategy, business planning, financial management, operations, marketing, personnel administration and other areas required for growth, productivity and innovation.

## GOALS

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- 1) Serve as the premier access point of choice for Choctaw owned small businesses to enhance client utility, expand the delivery network of services and provide resources highly valued by clients for operational, financial, marketing and educational needs.
- 2) Effectively communicate programs, services, successes and benefits to current and future clients, stakeholders and community partners to increase awareness and optimize utilization in support of small business growth and entrepreneurship.
- 3) Develop awareness and promote training and technical opportunities relative to the demands faced by entrepreneurs and encourage adoption of leading-edge technology for long-term growth and success.
- 4) Strategically manage human capital, including continuous development of skills, knowledge, creativity and critical thinking, to help build economic security for Choctaw Nation, tribal members and the surrounding communities.

## OUTCOMES

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CSBD will achieve these goals by ensuring customer centric delivery of programs and services to Choctaw owned small businesses through a 1:1 personalized relationship. Advisors will work with established and start-up businesses to create jobs and drive economic growth, as well as identify new clients throughout the Choctaw Nation reservation to stimulate entrepreneurship. Building a thriving business network fosters economic development and CSBD recognizes, while every entrepreneur has different needs, there is a common framework that supports a prosperous, innovative spirit. CSBD will utilize internal and external expertise to provide contextual guidance, drive sustainable growth and continuously instill the joy and passion of private enterprise throughout the Choctaw Nation reservation. Choctaw entrepreneurs are innovators who take risks on ideas and their creativity makes Choctaw Nation communities a vibrant place to live and work. CSBD thrives on helping make entrepreneurial dreams come true!

# CHAHTAPRENEUR FY22 YEAR IN REVIEW

**\$7,114**

## **MARKETING MATERIALS ASSISTANCE**

Twenty-six Choctaw-owned businesses received funding for marketing materials such as ads, fliers and brochures.

**\$1,380**

## **LOGO CREATION**

Thirteen Choctaw-owned businesses received assistance with logos and/or graphic design.

**\$39,740**

## **FURNITURE AND FIXTURES**

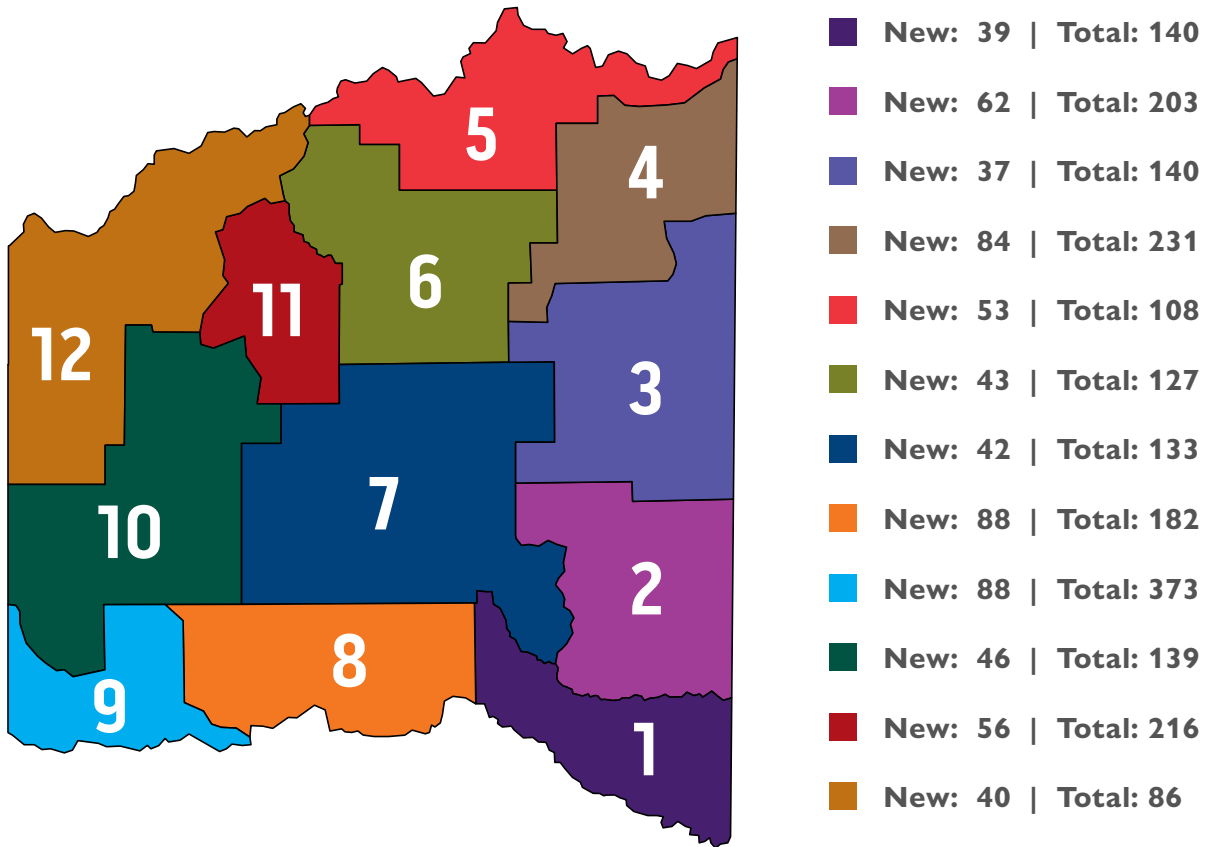
Seventeen Choctaw-owned businesses received furniture and/or fixtures.

**\$190,000**

## **\$5K FORGIVABLE LOANS**

Thirty-eight Choctaw-owned businesses received a Small Business Forgivable Loan from the Choctaw Development Fund.

# CLIENTS BY DISTRICT



**NEW CLIENTS**  
678

**BUSINESS STARTUPS**  
48

**BUSINESS EXPANSIONS**  
28

**TOTAL JOBS SUPPORTED**  
3,867

**TOTAL JOBS CREATED**  
258

**2,065**  
**TOTAL CLIENTS IN THE CHOCTAW NATION RESERVATION**

**COUNSELING HOURS**  
2,351

**TOTAL TRAININGS OFFERED**  
161

**TRAINING ATTENDEES**  
2,701

# CHAHTAPRENEUR IMPACT SINCE INCEPTION

## 2,285

### NUMBER OF CLIENTS

Chahtapreneurs within the Choctaw Nation reservation are eligible to receive technical support through one-on-one business counseling, training workshops and an extensive network of business assistance programs including logo graphic design, marketing materials, furniture/ fixtures program, bid assistance, indirect financing resources and co-working opportunities.

## 1,628

### JOBS CREATED

Chahtapreneurs received assistance with workforce development to help ensure their businesses were equipped with the skills, experiences and competencies needed for present and future growth, thus stimulating economic activity in local communities.

## 278

### BUSINESS START-UPS

Chahtapreneurs received specialized services regarding the formation, management and operation of small businesses, including guidance with planning, funding, naming and registering with local and state agencies.



# CHAHTAPRENEUR RIBBON CUTTINGS



**Uniquely Geek, LLC**  
TALIHINA | DISTRICT 3



**Kim's Flowers**  
CAMERON | DISTRICT 4



**Green Country Nutrition**  
HEAVENER | DISTRICT 4



**Fringe Salon & Spa**  
POTEAU | DISTRICT 4



**Brittany's Beauty Bar, LLC**  
POTEAU | DISTRICT 4



**Baby Bear's Home Cooking**  
WISTER | DISTRICT 4

# CHAHTAPRENEUR RIBBON CUTTINGS



**Raising Arrows Learning Center, LLC**  
WILBURTON | DISTRICT 6



**The Fur Station**  
HUGO | DISTRICT 8



**Oakes Auto Sales, LLC**  
HUGO | DISTRICT 8



**Rickman's Custom Meat Processing, LLC**  
HUGO | DISTRICT 8



**Allen's Pressure Washing, LLC**  
SOPER | DISTRICT 8



**Sundrop Books**  
DURANT | DISTRICT 9

# CHAHTAPRENEUR RIBBON CUTTINGS



**Impact Realty, LLC**  
DURANT | DISTRICT 9



**3C Hat Co.**  
DURANT | DISTRICT 9



**The Parlor**  
MCALESTER | DISTRICT 11



**Belly & Me**  
MCALESTER | DISTRICT 11



**Tease Me Hair Salon**  
MCALESTER | DISTRICT 11



**Freeze & Flare Heat & Air, LLC**  
MCALESTER | DISTRICT 11

# CHAHTAPRENEUR SCHOLARSHIP

**Macie Buckaloo**  
DURANT | DISTRICT 9

Choctaw Small Business Development awarded Macie Buckaloo the 2022 Chahtapreneur Scholarship for her outstanding service and academic record at Northeastern State University. Macie received her Bachelor of Business Administration in December 2022. She aspires to own her own insurance agency.



## SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

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The Chahtapreneur Scholarship was established in 2019 and is funded by donations given to the Chahta Foundation by Choctaw Small Business Development. Funds are raised from a silent auction held annually at the Choctaw Small Business Summit Awards Dinner.

This competitive scholarship is awarded to a Choctaw tribal member pursuing an undergraduate degree in a business field; eligible students must be in their junior or senior year and be residents of Oklahoma. Recipients are awarded \$500 per semester to assist with qualified educational expenses including tuition, fees and course-related expenses such as books, supplies and equipment.

# CHAHTAPRENEUR AWARDS

## CHAHTAPRENEUR

### DISTRICT 1



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**THE RED B  
RESTAURANT**  
IDABEL, OK

## CHAHTAPRENEUR

### DISTRICT 2



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**BEAVERS BEND  
RESTAURANT**  
HOCHATOWN, OK

## CHAHTAPRENEUR

### DISTRICT 3



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**WHERE THE WILD  
THINGS GROW**  
HEAVENER, OK

## CHAHTAPRENEUR

### DISTRICT 4



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**CAVANAL  
SERVICES**  
POTEAU, OK



## CHAHTAPRENEUR

### DISTRICT 5



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**SAW SAW'S  
SNOW BALLS**  
KITNA, OK

## CHAHTAPRENEUR

### DISTRICT 6



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**LITTLE COUNTRY  
FLOWERS & GIFTS**  
WILBURTON, OK

# CHAHTAPRENEUR AWARDS

CHAHTAPRENEUR

DISTRICT 7



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**SOMEDAY**  
ANTLERS, OK

CHAHTAPRENEUR

DISTRICT 8



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**COVER YOUR ASSETS TOOLS  
& SAFETY SUPPLY, LLC**  
HUGO, OK

CHAHTAPRENEUR

DISTRICT 9



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**GREG PHILIPS STATE  
FARM INSURANCE**  
DURANT, OK

CHAHTAPRENEUR

DISTRICT 10



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**KTC  
DISTRIBUTION, LLC**  
ATOKA, OK

CHAHTAPRENEUR

DISTRICT 11



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**DESIGNER CAKES**  
MCALESTER, OK

CHAHTAPRENEUR

DISTRICT 12



2022 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

**S & L  
LOGISTICS, LLC**  
CENTRAHOMA, OK

# CHAHTAPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

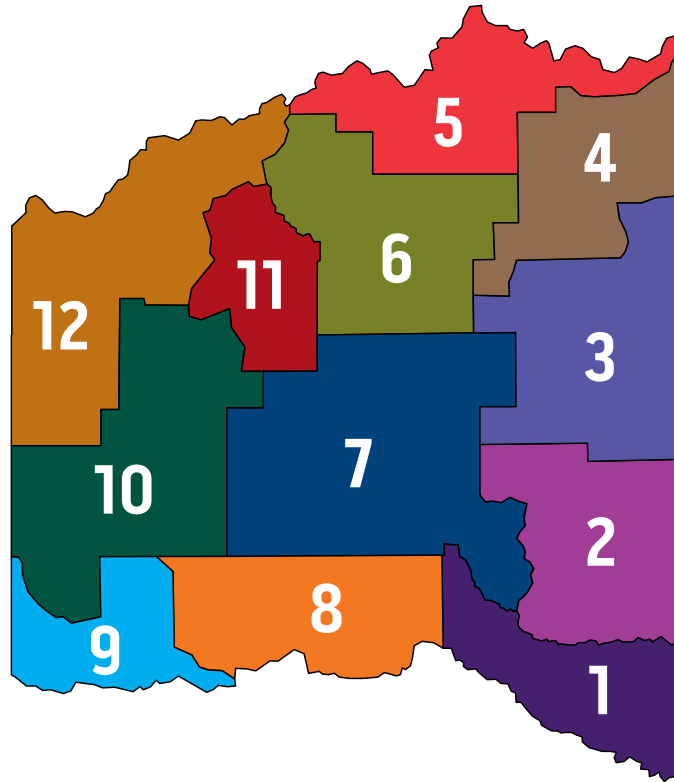
## CAVANAL SERVICES



Using breakthrough ideas, process management and exceptional customer service, Cavanal Services is paving the way for innovative and pioneering solutions for onshore outsourcing in the national real estate financial industry. In 2019, Carl Brown moved from California back to his hometown in Poteau, Oklahoma to start a new staffing and fulfillment support business. Since then, Cavanal Services has expanded to three locations, provided remote work opportunities in rural Oklahoma and positively influenced economic development activities within the Choctaw Nation reservation.

Cavanal Services was born from Brown's desire to see fellow Native Americans and others living in Indian Country find success through quality, career-building opportunities. According to Brown, Cavanal Services is a "resume job" for long-term wealth, as employee growth is an important part of Brown's support for entry-level employees. His goal is to train personnel to learn the business, gain valuable experience and use what they learn to leverage more lucrative positions in the future. Brown's unique approach to business has been effective. In 2022, Brown was awarded the Civic Improvement Award from LeFlore County Development Coalition, Choctaw Small Business District 4 Business of the Year and Choctaw Small Business's highest honor, Chahtapreneur of the Year.

# AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT FUNDING TOTAL BY DISTRICT



Choctaw Nation Small Business Recovery Assistance Program was created to assist Choctaw small business owners with economic hardships created by the COVID-19 pandemic. In FY22, Choctaw Small Business Development provided \$3,484,000 to 787 Chahtapreneurs.

■	<b>District 1</b>	Funded: 52		Total: \$256,000
■	<b>District 2</b>	Funded: 77		Total: \$344,000
■	<b>District 3</b>	Funded: 58		Total: \$260,000
■	<b>District 4</b>	Funded: 74		Total: \$316,000
■	<b>District 5</b>	Funded: 31		Total: \$140,000
■	<b>District 6</b>	Funded: 60		Total: \$264,000
■	<b>District 7</b>	Funded: 38		Total: \$160,000
■	<b>District 8</b>	Funded: 99		Total: \$416,000
■	<b>District 9</b>	Funded: 114		Total: \$532,000
■	<b>District 10</b>	Funded: 39		Total: \$168,000
■	<b>District 11</b>	Funded: 101		Total: \$448,000
■	<b>District 12</b>	Funded: 44		Total: \$180,000



# CHAHTAPRENEUR APP

Chahtapreneur Business Finder app was launched in August to connect Choctaw owned businesses with current and future customers. The online mobile platform assists businesses with marketing and provides greater accessibility to consumers for local products and services within the Choctaw Nation reservation.



306

**BUSINESSES ON APP**

742

**DOWNLOADS**

# CHAHTAPRENEUR COWORKING CENTERS



## ———— IDABEL CENTER ————

The Chahtapreneur Co-working Center in Idabel, Oklahoma is located in the newly renovated Idabel Shopping Center. The facility opened in October and offers Choctaw small business owners' access to technology (wi-fi, printer, scanner, photocopier), conference centers, lounge areas and shared or private office space, depending on level of membership. Since opening, the center has hosted over 100 guests, served six full-time businesses and indirectly assisted with creating eight new jobs.

## ———— DURANT CENTER ———— COMING 2023

The Chahtapreneur Co-working Center in Durant, Oklahoma is currently under renovation and is located in the old Choctaw Nation Headquarters. Scheduled to open in 2023, the state-of-the-art facility will offer the curated community of Choctaw small business owners' access to modern workspace and amenities for technology, innovation and entrepreneurship. The center will have a distinctive mix of basic work necessities combined with exceptional features, including shared and private office space, personal business advising, training workshops, community events and lounge areas with games to help business owners clear their minds after a long day of meaningful work.





# Choctaw Nation

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Small Business Development

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