

Choctaw Nation Health Services

AWARDED ACCREDITATION FROM JOINT COMMISSION

Talihina, 11-18-2005 – By demonstrating compliance with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization's national standards for health care quality and safety, Choctaw Nation Health Services has earned the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™.

Founded in 1951, the Joint Commission is dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of the nation's health care through voluntary accreditation. The Joint Commission's on-site survey of Choctaw Nation Health Services occurred in November.

"Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization's performance and the outcomes of care," says Kurt Patton, executive director, Hospital Accreditation Program, Joint Commission. "The community should be proud that Choctaw Nation Health Services is focusing on the most challenging goal -- to continuously raise quality and safety to higher levels."

Reece Sherrill spoke of his pride in a staff whose members ask what needs to be done to be accredited by the Joint Commission. "In addition, they appreciate the educational aspect of the survey and the opportunity to interact with the team of surveyors."

He called the accreditation, "proof of an organization-wide commitment to provide quality care on an ongoing basis