JUSTIFICATION FOR USPHS AWARD

It is recommended that LCDR Healthy Info be awarded the USPHS _____ Award for his noteworthy effort in developing access to the RPMS Health Care Management Software for the five Area Urban Clinics.

LCDR Info is currently serving as the Director of Management Information Systems for the Bemidji Area Office of the Indian Health Service. His duties include the management of the Area wide Information system and working with tribes to blend the IHS and tribal data systems. LCDR Info is a Civil Engineer that was selected as the Director of MIS position because of his management abilities and vast technical knowledge.

During the period of August 2006 and January 2007, LCDR Info met with the Area Urban clinic leaders and identified their needs for access to the IHS RPMS software package. The Urban Clinics do not have the resources or the technical staff to pursue this on their won. LCDR Info agreed to serve as the lead on this project. Historically, the urban centers were not part of the IHS Information Technology system. They received separate funding. It was essential that we track the health status of the AI/AN that are being served at these centers.

LCDR Info met with Area urban representatives and together they devised solutions to address the IT needs of the urban clinic. Area server space will be utilized and maintained by Area IT staff and it will allow the urban centers to utilize the various RPMS data packages as well as report on the GPRA indicators. This was a major weakness in the recent PART evaluation for urban clinics. This innovative approach to the problem is being copied nationally to allow all the urban centers to access the RPMS software. This is a major improvement for the patients and staff as well as for the Agency to capture data on significant portion of the AI/AN population. His efforts and the extensive preliminary work have enabled the Agency to expedite the transfer of the IT services to urbans on a national basis. His willingness to go the extra mile and ability to work well with others allowed him to exceed the Areas and urban staff's most optimistic timelines.

Thanks to LCDR Info's extra effort and ability to work with multiple disciplines this project is in the final stages of development. This will allow the urban centers and the Agency to meet the reporting requirements and satisfy the GPRA and PART assessment requirements set by the Administration.

For his successful completion of the Urban Clinic RPMS Access project under extreme deadlines on this unique, high profile, fast track project, LCDR Info is highly recommended for the USPHS _____ Award.

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