Justification for Awar	ding the	Award to
The High Cliff Service	Unit's Immur	nization Clinic Staff

The Staff of the High Cliff Service Unit's Immunization Clinic is being nominated for an Award subsequent to their expert and outstanding performance is successfully achieving the goals and objectives of the High Cliff Service Unit's Employee Health Program.

The Immunization Clinic Staff has achieved remarkable results for the Facilities' Employee health Program, which is a requisite of the Joint Commission for Accreditation. This Accrediting Standard was met in a relatively short period; it initiated at 48% compliance in March of 2007 and resulted in 93% compliance in April of 2008.

In just over a year, approximately 100 employees were provided multiple vaccinations to better prepare themselves, their families and our Health Care Facility against communicable diseases and other public health exposures. The High Cliff Service Unit's Employee Health Program is designed to protect healthcare workers by vaccinating them against Hepatitis B, Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella, along with proactive testing of staff for Tuberculosis using tuberculin (PPD) testing method. Without such and efficient Program, employees could communicate and/or be susceptible to the aforementioned disease states, thus increasing public health risk and potentially reducing the number of employees available to provide/enable the provision of health care in an already underserved rural areas.

The exceptional service and commitment of these officers exemplifies the United States Public Health Service mission and core values of "Protecting, promoting, and advancing the health and safety of the Nation" and Core Values of "Leadership-Service-Integrity-Excellence" in addition to providing incomparable service to employees of the High Cliff Service Center. Without dedicated officers like these, IHS and USPHS would be unable to optimally meet its basic medical and public health needs.

Therefore, in recognition of their outstanding exceptional service, I proudly and without reservation nominate the Staff of the High Cliff Service Unit's Immunization Clinic for the PHS Award.

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