

Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service

National Nurses Week
May 6 – 12, 2006

The week of May 6-12, 2006 is National Nurses Week. The week was established to acknowledge the fact that nurses greatly enhance the delivery of quality health care and are crucial members of the medical team. National Nurses Week gives everyone the opportunity to recognize a colleague, show their support for the medical team concept and to honor nurses.

There are more than 500 nurses working at IHS, Tribal and Urban programs within the Oklahoma City Area. No matter where these nurses are stationed, they enhance the delivery of quality health care and are vital members of the IHS medical team. The theme for this year's National Nurses Week is "Nurses: Strength, Commitment, and Compassion". Nowhere is this more evident than in the Indian Health Service. National Nurses Week is a time for nurses to receive greater recognition for their contributions to the nursing profession and to the health and well-being of American Indian and Alaska Native people.

Nurses working at IHS, Tribal and Urban programs, through their skill and knowledge, make health care possible for an increasing number of our community members. Nurses are a versatile and multi-talented member of the Indian Health Service team and their contributions towards the delivery of health care in the IHS is greatly appreciated. I would like to extend a warm thank to all of our Indian health system nurses for their hard work and professional contributions. Your dedicated service to the IHS and Indian communities we serve has made a tremendous positive difference. I am happy to have the opportunity to honor and recognize all IHS, Tribal and Urban nurses for the extraordinary work they do daily for the American Indian and Alaska Native people.



John Daugherty, Jr.
Area Director
Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service