

Press Release

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Karuk Tribal Health Program

AWARDED ACCREDITATION FROM JOINT COMMISSION

Happy Camp, June 23, 2006– By demonstrating compliance with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization's national standards for health care quality and safety, the Karuk Tribal Health Program has earned the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™.

"Achieving accreditation demonstrates Karuk Tribal Health has voluntarily sought an independent evaluation of its compliance with state-of-the-art performance standards," says Michael Kulczycki, executive director, Ambulatory Care Accreditation Program, Joint Commission.

"We seek accreditation for our organization because we want to be the best," says Lessie Aubrey, Acting Director. "We view obtaining Joint Commission accreditation as another step toward excellence."

"Our staff is very supportive of the process. It gives them a feeling of prestige to work in an accredited organization," says Mrs. Aubrey. "They also appreciate the educational aspect of the survey and the opportunity to interact with the Joint Commission team."

An independent, not-for-profit organization, the Joint Commission is the predominant standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Since 1975, the Joint Commission has developed state-of-the-art standards for outpatient ambulatory care organizations. Nearly 1,200 freestanding ambulatory care organizations maintain Joint Commission accreditation.