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**LCDR Kyrsten Smith Named IHS Area Pharmacist of the Year**

COWETA, OK — Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Kyrsten Smith has been named the Indian Health Service (IHS) Oklahoma City Area Junior Clinical Leadership Pharmacist of the Year. The prestigious award recognizes excellence in clinical leadership and patient-centered care.

LCDR Smith has served at MCN Health for more than five years. During that time, she has helped expand access to pharmacist-led Chronic Disease Management services for our patients.

"I really love what I do — helping people understand their medications and how to best manage diabetes and other complex conditions," said Lcdr Smith. "The support of our primary care providers, pharmacy staff, and leadership team has made it possible to work at the top of my pharmacist license and reach more patients to improve the health of our Nation."

Under her leadership, enrollment in the Chronic Disease Management program increased by 157 percent in 2025, significantly expanding access to care for patients with complex medical needs.

Her [smoking cessation program](#) achieved a 20 percent quit rate, with participants reducing tobacco use by 60 percent. Weight management patients saw an average weight loss of 6 percent, meeting or exceeding national benchmarks and lowering long-term health risks.

Koweta Clinic Administrator Sid Daniel emphasized the significance of her recognition.

"In all aspects of her work, Lcdr Smith demonstrates compassion, professionalism, and leadership beyond her years of service," Daniel said. "Her impact on our patients and our clinical team has been significant."

LCDR Smith's work directly impacts the health of Muscogee citizens by improving access to care and strengthening long-term health outcomes across the communities we serve.

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**About Muscogee Nation Department of Health**

Headquartered in Okmulgee Okla., the Muscogee Nation is the fourth largest federally recognized tribe in the United States with more than 100,000 citizens. The Muscogee Nation Department of Health operates community hospitals. To ensure healthy generations of Native people, the Nation also operates Indian health clinics and provides dedicated services for citizens of federally recognized tribes.