

Su Clínica

1706 Treasure Hills Blvd. Harlingen, Texas 78550

April 25, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Su Clinica Earns Prestigious SHARP Award for Safety and Health

Su Clinica, a Harlingen based community health center, has been recognized as a leader in workplace safety by earning the prestigious Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) award from the U.S. Department of Labor for instituting an effective safety and health program at its Harlingen Clinic. The clinic was recognized with a certificate from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

OSHA's On-site Consultation Program's Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) is a national effort to recognize small business employers who operate an exemplary injury and illness prevention program. In 2012, OSHA's On-Site Consultation Program conducted approximately 30,000 visits nationally to worksites covering over 1.5 million workers.

Acceptance of a worksite into SHARP from OSHA is a high achievement that singles out a business from among its business peers as a model for worksite safety and health. Su Clinica is one of only 90 businesses in Texas to be currently recognized with the SHARP award, and is the only community health center in the nation to earn the award in 2013.

To be eligible for SHARP, a business must:

- Request a comprehensive consultation visit from OSHA's On-site Consultation Office,
- Involve employees in the consultation process,
- Correct all hazards identified by the consultant,
- Implement and maintain an injury and illness prevention program, and

- Agree to notify the On-site Consultation Office prior to making any changes in the workplace.

The rewards from enhancing a continuously improving culture of safety have been impressive. Employee productivity has increased through fewer days lost due to injuries. There is a greater sense of workplace pride, company loyalty, and job satisfaction. The insurance company has provided the clinic with annual dividends since 2006. Most impressive, since 2003-2004, the clinic has seen the dollar amount paid for its annual premium drop by 22% while at the same time adding over 200 employees.

Su Clinica takes great pride in the increasing excellence of its safety program. As Dr. Marin puts it, "When we first started the program, we knew we had a great culture of safety, but we knew we could get better. We have always been a proactive organization that is committed to innovation in workplace safety and community health. That's why I decided to enlist the help of OSHCON. With a strong executive level champion reinforcing the fundamentals and committed involvement from partners such as OSHCON, any workplace can achieve outstanding results. It can be done."

Su Clinica CEO, Elena Marin, M.D. adds, "We continually recognize that 95% of what each of us does every single day involves safety and it is definitely a team effort...from senior leadership to front line staff. We are a forward thinking organization with a safe and healthy future ahead. And that's a prescription for success for any company."

Su Clinica Familiar is a non-profit organization providing primary healthcare services through clinics in Brownsville, Harlingen, Raymondville, and Santa Rosa, Texas. Su Clinica receives support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Primary Healthcare. Corporate offices are located at 1706 Treasure Hills Blvd., Harlingen, Texas.

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