



**NOMINATION FOR
Southern Region Distinguished Service Award
Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Zeta Chapter – Texas**

Nominee's Name: Carrie T. Brazeal
Title: CEA-FCS
Address: 825 N. McDonald Street, Suite 150
City, State Zip: McKinney, TX 75069
E-Mail: c-brazeal@tamu.edu

Position and Dates of Extension Employment:

County Extension Agent – Family and Consumer Sciences, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Collin County,
January 2008 – present.
County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences, Texas Cooperative Extension, Collin County,
July 2001-December 2007.
County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences (Program Leader), Texas Agricultural Extension Service,
Collin County, February 1983 - July 2001.
County Extension Agent - Home Economics, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Collin County,
September 1981 – February 1983.
Assistant County Extension Agent - Home Economics, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Hopkins County,
November 1979 - September 1981.

Education:

M.S. (Home Economics), Texas A&M-Commerce, 1982
B.S. (Vocational Home Economics), Texas A&M-Commerce, 1979
Certified IS-00700 National Incident Management System through FEMA, 2007
San Antonio Leadership Extension, 2003
Certified Extension Mentor, 2000
Certified through American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, 1993 - present

Outstanding Professional Accomplishments:

Epsilon Sigma Phi - 24 year member
State Distinguished Service Award, 2008
State Mid-Career Award, 1994
State Early Career Award, 1989

National and Texas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences - 29 year member

TEAFCS Written News, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 1998, 1996, 1992, 1991, 1989, 1987
NEAFCS Written News, 2nd place Southern Region- 2005, 2003; 3rd place Southern Region - 2001, 1996, 1992;
2nd place at National -2005, 2003
TEAFCS Educational Publication, 2007
TEAFCS and NEAFCS Continued Excellence, 2001
TEAFCS Second Vice President, 1996
TEAFCS District Director, 1994-96
TEAFCS and NEAFCS Distinguished Service, 1993
TEAFCS Newsletter, 1989

Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Superior Service Award - Team, 2009

Texas Agriculture Extension Service Superior Service Award, 1990

Texas State Parent Teacher Association Life Member, 1988

Outstanding Programmatic Accomplishments: Due to limited space, only three major program areas will be highlighted. Brazeal is the only FCS agent in Collins county and it has a population of more than 750,000. She is responsible for all FCS program areas.

Parenting Education: Parenting Education was identified as a critical issue in the early 1990s and continues today. Partnerships with churches, school districts, city Parks and Rec departments, Collin College, parent groups including Practical Parent Education in Plano and other groups have been established with outstanding results. Parenting education classes are regularly taught in various locations throughout Collin County. A quarterly newsletter, Be the Best You Can Be... Parenting Young Children, which began in 1994, is currently distributed to 21 groups and agencies who distribute to more than 2500 families. In 1997, Brazeal began teaching parenting education to male inmates at the county Detention Center on a weekly basis. In 2001, an additional weekly class for minimum security male and female inmates (SCORE) was added. An eight-week series has been evaluated for three years using pre- and post-tests for each lesson. Results show significant increases in knowledge. Detention as well as SCORE officials report that Brazeal's classes are consistently ranked outstanding by participants and her classes always have a waiting list.

Child Care Provider Trainings: In order to meet the need for reliable, economical training for child care providers, Brazeal partnered with Collin County Community College to sponsor a day-long conference that was held in 1990 and 1991. Both conferences were well-received with more than 200 providers attending each. When the college had a change of leadership, Brazeal formed a coalition to plan, conduct and evaluate additional conferences. Beginning in 1993, 3, three hour conferences for providers have been offered annually. The format has stayed the same: two or three topics are suggested by the planning committee and Brazeal conducts the sessions. Average attendance has grown from 50 per conference to 175. In 2008, 596 participated in the three conferences, which expanded in 2007 to include two additional conferences for home-based providers. Providers can easily obtain their required clock hours of training by participating in these conferences along with trainings offered through Plano and Frisco Parks and Rec Departments, which began in 1996. Participants were evaluated after participating in two conferences in 2007 with the following results:

*268 of 269 (99.7%) indicated that the training would help them become a more effective early childhood educator.

*268 of 288 (99.35%) indicated that the information received at the training would help them improve the quality of care that they provide for the children they care for.

*284 of 286 (99.35%) indicated that the topics covered in the conference were relevant to the work they do as an early childhood educator

*286 of 289 (99.02%) indicated that the training provided them with new ideas that they can use in their child care program

Diabetes Education: Brazeal established a Diabetes Coalition in 2002 which includes representatives from five local hospitals, community volunteers and people with type 2 diabetes. This group sponsors Do Well Be Well with Diabetes and Cooking Well with Diabetes twice annually. Coalition members regularly serve as presenters and actively market classes to their patients. Brazeal teaches at least one session per series. The pre-, post- and follow-up surveys indicate that knowledge was learned and several best practices adopted including carb counting, plate method, recipe modification, regular visits with medical team and written logs for blood sugar testing. She writes the quarterly Living Well with Diabetes, a newsletter targeted to those with type 2. She is a regular speaker for several diabetes support groups and serves on the Diabetes Advisory Board for one of the hospitals.

Support Statement (approximately 75 words):

Brazeal continually demonstrates strong work with her Family Advisory Board and Diabetes Coalition. She has established outstanding community collaborations with many groups and agencies and continues to build new partnerships.. She has impressive documented outcomes in parenting education, diabetes education, Walk Across Texas and child care provider conferences. She is recognized by not only her peers but other professionals for strong programs.