



**NOMINATION FOR
Diversity Award – Individual
Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Zeta Chapter – Texas**

Nominee's Name: Flora Williams

Title: Family and Consumer Sciences—Grimes County
4-H and Youth Development Coordinator

Address: 208 South Judson Street

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Position and Dates of Extension Employment:

- County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences, Grimes County; October 2004—present
- Extension Agent Cooperative Extension Program, Family and Consumer Sciences, Waller County, July 2002—October 2004
- Extension Agent Cooperative Extension Program, Family and Consumer Sciences, Wharton County, July 2000—July 2002

Education:

- Doctoral Scholar, University of Phoenix, School of Advanced Studies, March 2009—present
- Master of Arts Education Administration/ Curriculum and Instruction, University of Phoenix, October 2008
- Bachelor of Sciences Home Economics, Prairie View A&M University December 1992
- Food Protection Management Certification, Texas Department of State Health Services, 2009
- Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes Certification, 2007
- Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification, Safe Riders, 2000

Outstanding Professional Accomplishments:

- Kidz in Motion Conference, 2009, HERO Award
- Early Childhood Child Care Training Award, 2005
- Distinguished Service Early Career Award, Cooperative Extension Program, 2003
- Florence Hall Award, TEAFCS, 2002
- Recognized in two newspapers the *Bryan Eagle* April 27, 2008 edition and *Navasota Examiner*, May 13, 2009 edition for child safety seat education program saving a life.
- Recognized in *On the Road with...Rural Child Passenger Safety Newsletter* in the Child Passenger Safety Impact:
 - Technicians Saving Lives section, Volume 2, Number 5, Summer 2002
 - Recognized in *On the Road with...Rural Child Passenger Safety Newsletter* in the Child Safety Seat Blitz Across Texas Success section, Volume 2, Number 4, Spring 2002

Outstanding Programmatic Accomplishments:

Diversity in Child Passenger Safety Delivery

Relevance:

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages 3 and up. For children ages 14 and under, the annual cost of motor vehicle occupant-related death and injury exceeds \$17.8 billion.

Although safety belts and child restraints are the single-most effective tool in reducing these deaths and injuries, nationally more than half of children killed in vehicle crashes are unrestrained. Misuse and non-use of child restraints remains high.

Response:

Over the last nine years, Flora has used various methods of implementing Child Passenger Safety programs to diverse audiences in addition to the car seat fitting station. For those early in the life span, she uses the Buckle Bear Puppet to entertain Head Start through second grade students as they learn to ride properly restrained on every ride. She visits health fairs, Ag Days, and 4-H clubs with the Rollover Convincer, exhibits, and Vince and Larry the Crash Test dummies. Flora presents a self-developed PowerPoint® presentation to the third grade and beyond audience of the life span. The presentation is interactive, incorporates humor, and is informative. She had also done numerous media presentations via the newspaper and radio broadcast. The fitting station provides one-on-one hands on instruction to families and demonstrates to care givers how to properly place a child in child restraint systems (CRS), how to properly install a CRS in a motor vehicle, and on the laws and best practices surrounding child passenger safety. Each year she has operated a fitting station. At these fitting stations she has inspected and distributed over 100 car seats since 2002.

The FCS committees from the three respective counties—Wharton, Waller, and Grimes were instrumental in ensuring that the program reached diverse audiences through providing translation services for flyers, literature, and educational presentations to non English language speakers and in identifying audiences.

Results:

The 2008 data is typical results of fitting station operations. The Grimes County Fitting station was in operation three days a month for 10 months in 2008 and provided one-on-one and group presentations on how to properly place infants and child in child restraint systems (CRS) and how to properly install or use the CRS. One hundred and seventy installations resulted from 72 families. The fitting station provided citizens with a saving of \$7,650.00 in CRS, the cost of violating passenger laws which could have resulted in fines from \$17,000 to \$34,000, and possibly saving lives. All families' skills of installing safety seats were measured upon arrival at the fitting station and before leaving the fitting station. Upon arrival no families demonstrated a proper installation and after being trained 100% could demonstrate a proper installation. Those participating in the program included a diverse audience make-up of 16% White; 59% Hispanic; 25% African-American.

Support Statement (approximately 75 words):

Flora Williams is committed to the Child Passenger Safety project as evidenced by her operating a fitting station in all three counties where she has served as an agent/technician. She shows commitment to reaching diverse audiences through the use of translators, literature, and videos for non English speaking population. She spreads the passenger safety message to audiences of all ages through puppet shows, crash test dummies, PowerPoint® presentations, group and one-to-one hands on education.