Award Category: Distinguished Service Award

Name & Nominee: Sally Garrett, Fayette County Extension Agent – Family & Consumer Sciences

Nomination Narrative:

Sally Garrett has been a County Extension Agent – Family & Consumer Sciences for over 10 years, serving in this position in Colorado County for 8 years and for the past 2 3/4 years in Fayette County. She also served as the Fayette County Program Assistant – Family & Consumer Sciences from 1997 to 2000. It was during her tenure as a Program Assistant in 2000 that Sally became a member of National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS). In 1997 Sally received her Bachelor’s of Science degree through Southwest Texas State University and completed her Masters in Ag Science in 2007 through TX A&M – Kingsville.

During her years of membership, Sally has been a strong supporter of NEAFCS and its affiliate, TEAFCS. Since 2000 Sally has attended all but one of the annual state association conferences and attended the 2002 and 2010 NEAFCS conferences. Sally has also served in many capacities through her association membership including the following:

- Member & Contributor – NEAFCS Cookbook Food Safety Committee, 2009
- D11 Texas Extra Editor, TEAFCS, 2010 to present
- Reviewer, TEAFCS State Conference Minutes, 2009
- Executive Director, District 11 TX Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (TEAFCS), 2006-2009
- Member – TEAFCS Resource Committee, 2007-2008
- Reviewer, TEAFCS Spring Board Minutes, 2008
- Associate Director, District 11 TEAFCS, 2005-2006
• Treasurer, District 11 TEAFCS, 2003-2005
• Chair, District 11 TEAFCS Registration Committee for State TEAFCS Conference, 2003
• Member, District 11 TEAFCS Steering Committee for State TEAFCS Conference, 2002-2003

Sally’s certifications, professional experiences and service during the past 10 years include the following:

• County Coordinator, Fayette County, 2008 to present
• Member, District 11 4-H Program Development Committee, 2008-2009
• County Coordinator, Colorado County, 2004-2008
• 4-H County Coordinator, Colorado County, 2000-2008
• Certified Extension Mentor, 2003 to present
• Certified National Child Passenger Car Seat Technician, 2002 to present
• Qualified Food Protection Manager Trainer, 1999 to present
• Member, District 11 4-H Crossroads’ Committee, 2007
• Member, District 11 Distance Education & Technology Committee, 2004-2006

Sally’s awards and recognitions include the following:

• *Hero Award*, Kidz In Motion National Conference, 2010
• TEAFCS, Early Childhood Child Care Training Award, 2008
• TEAFCS, Food Safety Award, 2008
• TEAFCS, Community Partnership Award, 2006
• TEAFCS, Marketing Team Award, 2001
• NEAFCS, Southern Region & Regional Finalist, Marketing Package, 2001

For more than 10 years Sally has been a member of a Multi-County Child Care Programming team which was organized by Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington County
Extension agents for Family & Consumer Sciences. As a team member she has co-hosted and taught sessions at annual day-long conferences which offered child care providers quality educational programming. Sessions taught by Sally included Developing a Disaster Plan for Your Facility, Nutritious Snacks and Developing Curriculum for Activity Centered Learning. The success of the conference can be measured in part by the following:

- 1,528 providers have received 10,696 workshop hours since 2000.
- 218 providers have obtained CEUs since 2001.
- 120% increase in attendance from 2000.
- 17,508 children impacted by educational programs offered by the over 100 participating child care centers or family day homes.

Another major program area for Sally is Food Protection Management (FPM). As a qualified food manager trainer, she has offered trainings and onsite testing since 1999. Over the past 2 years Sally has co-taught with Washington and Wharton County agents with classes rotating through the 3 county areas.

- 263 individuals trained since 2000.
- 100% passing rate for students involved in 2 day training or test only for the past 2 years.

As a certified agent Sally has been also involved in the state FPM program serving on the State FPM Advisory Board since 2002 and had additional food safety involvement as:

- Author, Spring State FPM Newsletter, 2010
- Co-author, “3 Compartment Sink” poster, for State FPM website in 2009.
- Member, NEAFCS Food Safety Committee and contributor to food safety section to NEAFCS National Cookbook, in 2009.
- Co-author, Winter State FPM Newsletter, 2007
Through the food safety program Sally has worked with local hospitals, Head Start, area family/youth retreat camp staff, and school kitchen staffs along with retail food businesses by presenting Food Handler's courses.

Another prominent program for Sally is the Fayette County Walk Across Texas (WAT), an eight week general activity program. As the Fayette County Extension Agent for the past 3 years, Sally has offered the general public this opportunity. By including resources from the TX Department of Aging and Disability Services in 2010 new audiences were targeted. The 2010 program grew to 47 teams (a 400% increase over 2009) with 340 participants walking 55,338.55 miles. The 2010 potential economic impact was $6,002,089 for the eight week program. Many of the teams continued to walk an additional 4 weeks reporting 13,208.55 additional miles.

Child Passenger Safety education became another major program area in 2002 when Sally became a Certified National Child Passenger Car Seat Technician. For the county program Sally has obtained car seat grants and donations through Gulf Coast Medical Foundation, TX Department of State Health Services Safe Riders, DSHS "Give TX A Boost" Initiative, local church and private individuals. Through these efforts Sally has been able to offer individual educational programs and county-wide checkup events. Starting in 2010 the Fayette County office has served as a fitting station through TX AgriLife Extension's Passenger Safety program.

Better Living for Texas (BLT), a federal food and nutrition program is another strong program area with the Fayette county staff contributing

- 739 match hours in 2008-2009 or 127.41% overall match.
- Contracted in 2009-2010 for 580 match hours but the office staff contributed a total of 699.50 contract hours, which was a 120.6% completion rate.
- Contracted for 625 BLT match hours for the 2010-2011 contract year.
BLT Programs are held at a variety of sites including the local food bank and waivered schools. Working with the county 4-H Agent in 2009.

Sally helped facilitate the Balance the Day with Food & Play and the 2009 TX Education Association’s WAT Challenge in 2 local schools. In 2010 Sally will be assisting the county 4-H Agent on the Organ Wise program at local school. Both of these programs are collaborative efforts with the county 4-H Agent.

Sally has served as the Extension Education Association (EEA) advisor for county EEA in both Colorado and Fayette Counties. She has presented club educational programs and in 2008 developed a quarterly Fayette County EEA Newsletter for better communications with club members. Additionally Sally has served:

- On State EEA Conference Education Committee, 2007-2008 and has co-developed programs for 2 state conferences.
- On Annual Multi-County EEA Leaders Training conducted by county agents and developed annual training packets since 2003.

As the county coordinator Sally works with the Commissioners’ Court on office budget, office staffing and program interpretation to county stakeholders. She also coordinates 3 county office staff which includes a county program assistant for Family & Consumer Sciences.

Sally is also active in her community serving in the following capacities:

- Member, Delta Kappa Gamma International, 2009 to present
- Board Member and President of the Fayette County Child Welfare Board from 2000 to present.
- Board Member, Fayette Heritage Library/Museum/Archives Board, 2000 to present
Distinguished Service Award
Entry #1320
Sally Garrett registering participants