

# Collin County Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Madia Lara

Honoree's Job Title: Epidemiology Tech

Department: Healthcare Services

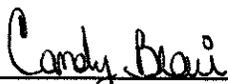
Years of Service with the County: 7 years

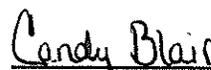
Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

On September 30, 2014, the Centers for Disease Control gave confirmation of the first U.S. case of Ebola Virus Disease in our neighboring county, Dallas County. In the days and weeks that followed, the original Dallas County case resulted in two additional cases in the healthcare workers who provided care for the patient. As a result, local, regional, state, and federal public health officials were called upon to manage the crisis.

Having only joined the Epidemiology team a few months ago, Madia has been steadily learning the tasks associated with disease reporting and our county's public health responsibilities. Following the confirmation of the first Ebola case, Madia could see that the team needed 'all hands on deck'. Madia provided essential administrative support by preparing printed educational and surveillance materials for the many presentations and collaborations the team had with Collin County Homeland Security, healthcare providers, and others. Madia put the needs of the team first and on several occasions worked later than usual so that the team would have what they needed for their presentations. Madia also took a greater part in monitoring the daily incoming disease reports so that the team could continue to manage the usual disease investigations in a timely manner. Madia's willingness to help is deeply appreciated by her team and the department.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 7 day of November, 2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Elected Official  
or Department Head

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name