

## Gateway Community Health Center, Inc. Employees of the Month

Elmo Lopez, Jr., Chief Executive Officer for Gateway Community Health Center, Inc., awarded certificates of appreciation for the employee's hard work.

The Central Clinic awardees are:



Davyne Agüero, Registered Dental Hygienist, Employed since January 2002

Liliana Garza, Medical Office Assistant, Employed since June 2015

Doris Donovan, Head Dental Assistant, Employed since October 2000

The South Clinic awardees are:



Mayra Garza, PA-C, Employed since August 2013

Patricia Leal, WHNP, Employed since May 2014

Nely Ramos, a Housekeeping Worker/Courier, Employed since June 2015

The Hebbronvilleb Clinic awardees are:



Marie Dillon, FNP-BC, Employed since July 2006



Patrican Valderas, Housekeeping Worker/Courier, Employed since May 2014

Gateway Community Health Center, Inc. | Contributor

## AHEC welcomes Dr. Oda Garcia

The Board of Directors of the Mid Rio Grande Border AHEC welcomes Dr. Oda Garcia as the new Community Outreach Coordinator. Dr. Garcia joins the AHEC team as part of a new AHEC initiative that will provide community-wide outreach and cancer prevention education to schools and community groups in an effort to promote HPV vaccination services. In her new position, she will support the development, implementation and evaluation of an evidence-based prevention program to promote the timely initiation and completion of the HPV vaccination among adolescents in Dimmit and LaSalle Counties. "We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Garcia to our AHEC family; she brings valuable medical knowledge and experience to enhance our AHEC program" remarked Ms. Julie Bazan, Executive Director.

Dr. Garcia obtained her medical degree as Medico Cirujano

y Partero in 2002.

She is a graduate from the Medical School at the Universidad Mexicana del Norte, A.C. in the City of Reynosa, Tamaulipas. She completed her internship and residency requirements at the Hospital General in Nuevo Laredo and the Secretaria de Salud Jurisdiccion V. She has gained valuable experience in the medical field through her employment on both sides of the U.S./Mexico Border. Following her graduation, she worked at Servicios Medicos Municipales, as Clinic Director of a satellite clinic at the Secretaria de Salud Jurisdiccion V. She was instrumental in providing community education and reinforcing the importance of vaccination and early detection of chronic diseases. She also worked for the City of Laredo Health



Dr. Oda Garcia

Department where she trained as an Epidemiologist under the Early Warning Infectious Disease Program and later in the Emergency Preparedness Program.

She supported public health events as a member of the Laredo Health Coalition. Dr. Garcia is a valuable member of the community because her passion for helping others have motivated her to join different foundations and associations with the purpose of creating awareness about diseases that have impact the lives of residents from both sides of the U.S./Mexico border. She is a member of the Michael J. Fox Foundation to support Parkinson's Disease, St. Jude's in the fight of childhood cancer and No Stomach for Cancer in the fight and support of research for gastric cancer. She is also a passionate runner and has been able to raise funds for various organizations.

She is an active member of The Laredo Morning Crew and the Corredores con Causa de Los Dos Laredos.

The Mid Rio Grande Border AHEC welcomes Dr. Oda Garcia and is committed to continue to work with other partners throughout the State in support of its mission – to improve the quality of lives for residents in Dimmit, Jim Hogg, LaSalle, Webb, Zapata, Duval. The Area Health Education Center of the Mid Rio Grande Border Area is an outreach program under the UTHSCSA and is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization with a mission to enhance the quality of life our communities by increasing the number of well-trained health care workers; enhancing academic resources; and fostering a healthy lifestyle through community education programs.

For additional information about AHEC and the menu of programs, visit [www.mrgbahec.org](http://www.mrgbahec.org) or call (956)712-0037.