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Texas A&M University Health Science Center Office of Governmental and Public Affairs

Texas A&M awarded EPA Children's Environmental Health Award

(BRYAN, Texas) — Genny Carrillo, MD, ScD, MPH, MSPH, associate professor at the Texas A&M School of Public Health, was recently awarded the 2016 Children's Environmental Health Excellence Award from the Office of Children's Health Protection at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

From culturally appropriate educational interventions to unique collaborations with primary schools, higher education institutions and hospitals, Carrillo has [improved the quality of life](#) of children suffering with asthma in South Texas. Housed at the Texas A&M University Health Science Center McAllen campus, she developed the successful intervention based on extensive applied research and outreach efforts. Due to the proven success of the program, Carrillo's curriculum is being implemented in the 27 counties addressed by Texas A&M Healthy South Texas.

The EPA review committee commended Carrillo's efforts to train health care providers, community health workers and respiratory therapy students on asthma triggers.

"This award represents the hard work and efforts of many individuals and organizations who have worked together to make a difference in our community," Carrillo said. "In addition to the Texas A&M School of Public Health in McAllen, organizations such as the South Texas College Respiratory Program, Rio Grande Regional Hospital and Knapp Community Care Foundation have worked with me for many years, and I am very appreciative of their continued support and trust."

Carrillo's asthma curriculum will be expanded to the rest of state as part of Healthy Texas, a community-based health promotion platform to educate families, promote behavior change and improve the well-being of residents to increase quality of health care and life.

Carrillo received the award on October 13 in Washington, D.C., at the Children's Environmental Health Day program hosted by the EPA Children's Environmental Health Network.

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