

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

Honoree's Name: Esperanza Valadez

Honoree's Job Title: Senior Eligibility Clerk

Department: WIC

Years of Service with the County: 11 years

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award:

Esperanza has been recognized by her colleagues for her exceptional service, leadership, and compassion in the WIC department. She proactively identifies the needs of the department and willingly takes on various roles to ensure that clients receive timely assistance. A notable example of her dedication occurred when a pregnant mother arrived at the WIC office in crisis after going without food for two days. Esperanza provided her with nourishment and immediately initiated the process to secure same-day benefits. This incident highlighted Esperanza's empathy and her ability to act decisively in critical situations. She consistently delivers excellent services to our clients and goes above and beyond to meet their needs, making her truly deserving of this GEM award.

Approved by elected official or department head on the 1st day of July 2025.

Candy Blair

Signature of Elected Official or Department Head