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Health District Employee Recognized as a Public Health Nursing Trailblazer



La Marque - The Texas Department of Health's Office of Public Health Practice presented one of its highest honors to Shirley Jean Carr, BSN at a recent Public Health Nursing Leadership Conference held in Austin. Ms. Carr is the Director of Nursing at the Galveston County Health District.

The Public Health Nursing Trailblazer award is presented annually to public health nurses that have made significant and innovative contributions to the health care of Texans, who have increased the status and public recognition of community health nursing as a whole and who have positively influenced the practice of nursing in Texas. Shirley Carr is recognized for having met all of these requirements during her 36 year nursing career.

"Her leadership and commitment to public health nursing is truly remarkable," states Dr. Mark Guidry Executive Director of the Health District. "Shirley has been at the forefront of public health in Galveston County for 36 years."

Nurse Carr has long participated in the community having served on the Coastal Area Health Education Center Board of Directors since 1992. Other avenues of service have included the County Board of Health, the Texas A&M Extension Office Family Consumer Science Committee, The Walk Across Texas program, and the Texas Public Health Association.

One of Shirley's greatest achievements has been working to raise the county's childhood immunization rate over the past several years in partnership with the Galveston County Immunization Coalition.

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