

Certified WIC Nutrition Technician (CWNT) Wins *Laura K. Savage* Award

WIC Service is pleased to announce Maria de Leon as the winner of the 7th Annual *Laura K. Savage Creativity in Nutrition Education Award*. Ms. de Leon is a CWNT with Neighborhood Services Organization (NSO) West WIC Clinic in Oklahoma City. The award was presented at the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) State WIC and Clerical Conference held February 6-8, 2008, in Oklahoma City.

Ms. de Leon's submission was in competition with WIC nutrition educators across Oklahoma. Terry Bryce, WIC Chief, presented the award for Ms. de Leon's winning submission titled "Parenting's Best Kept Secret: Baby Wearing."

Ms. de Leon was born in Guatemala. She spent part of her childhood in Oklahoma City, and then returned to Guatemala to earn her diploma as a bilingual secretary with a specialty in commercial computation. Ms. de Leon returned to the United States in 1994 and joined the team at NSO West in 1999, where she completed her CWNT training in 2000.

This award is named in memory of Laura K. Savage, WIC Nutrition Education Coordinator, who lost her life in a car crash in June 2001. The creative spirit of Ms. Savage was evident in the nutrition education ideas presented at the conference. As part of winning the Laura K. Savage award, Ms. de Leon will travel to the National WIC Association's 25th Annual Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, this May where nutritionists nationwide will view her winning entry.

