



DHS News

Newsletter of the Allegheeny County
Department of Human Services



September 2019

Kudos: Leann Rendulic (Georgia Hernandez Award Winner)

Leann Rendulic, matching caseworker, was selected as the 2019 recipient of the Georgia Hernandez Award for Excellence in Child Welfare Practice.

Leann was recognized for her dedication, compassion, positivity and giving spirit. Her nominator stated, "Over this past summer alone, Leann has singlehandedly been responsible for locating and moving some of most difficult youth from the highest level of congregate care settings to foster care placements. She had two discharges on one day and completed a dual discharge physical for these youth." The nominator adds, "Leann is continually praised by the families and the youth she is working with for her selflessness (inability to say no) and endless compassion. One foster family called Leann their 'guardian angel' and went on to say they will never forget Leann and will be forever grateful for her efforts."

The nominator concludes, "Leann's commitment to child welfare is remarkable, and I know that she is there any time I need her, whether it be to ask a question, [ask for] help or just for a laugh... She never ceases to amaze me. I am so thankful to be given this opportunity to recognize her dedication and overall excellence."

Leann was presented with the award at the CYF all-staff training held on September 27 at South Park.

The Georgia Hernandez Award for Excellence in Child Welfare Practice is presented annually to one caseworker who exemplifies excellence in case practice; a commitment to the DHS vision and guiding principles; and who consistently demonstrates CYF core competencies such as cultural competence, a client focus, adaptability and trustworthiness.