AANP Regional Director Rosie Morales Named Texas Nurse Practitioner of the Year

Rosalinda (Rosie) Morales, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, has been named the 2011 Texas Nurse Practitioner of the Year. She received the award, which was determined by a vote of her peers, at the annual Texas Nurse Practitioners Conference September 8-11 in Fort Worth, Texas.

Dr. Morales serves as Region 6 AANP Director, representing Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana & Arkansas, where she works with AANP state representatives in addressing legislative issues and fosters networking and communication among all regional state representatives, appropriate leadership contacts and constituents.

“I am honored to be selected for this award,” said Dr. Morales. “It is particularly meaningful given the outstanding contributions of my fellow NPs in Texas.”

She has served three terms on the AANP Foundation Board of Directors and is currently the Vice President of the AANP Foundation, where she raises funds for scholarships and grants to deserving nurse practitioners and doctoral students as they advance their education.

Dr. Morales is a Past President of Texas Nurse Practitioners (2004-2006) and served as Galveston Regional Representative on the Texas Nurse Practitioners board of directors. She has volunteered for many years as a member of the legislative action committee of Texas Nurse Practitioners.

In the larger community, Dr. Morales, along with her husband, founded the Texas Liver Coalition Support Group – Texas City, one of the largest and most active liver support groups in Texas. Together they founded a Liver Awareness and Health Fair for the community in bringing attention to the needs of individuals with liver disease.

During her tenure on the Santa Fe City Council from 1994-2002, where she served one term as Mayor Pro-Tem, Dr. Morales founded the City of Santa Fe Child Safety Fair, which continues today. The Fair brings together community agencies that represent resources available to families in providing safety information and education for children.

Dr. Morales was recently honored by the Galveston Democrats as one of six women in Galveston County as a 2011 Democratic Women’s Trailblazer Nominee for her community service as an activist in the political process to promote healthcare to the citizens of Texas.

As part of her ongoing devotion to promoting NP practice, she continues to mentor and precept undergraduate, nurse practitioner and physician assistant students in their clinical nursing education.