



City of SANTA CLARITA Teen Hero

The mission of the Neighborhood Empowerment Safety Team (NEST) is to collaborate and facilitate education and prevention programs that create alternatives to gang involvement and ensure Santa Clarita is safe, family-centered and gang free.

NEST is comprised of city staff, law enforcement, local agency representatives, and community volunteers who coordinate a community effort.

Know a youth who would benefit from NEST programs? Want to volunteer or learn more? Call Anthony Martinez for more information at (661) 286-4006.

Magdalena Gomez

Congratulations Magdalena Gomez for being selected as a "Santa Clarita Valley Teen Hero."

Santa Clarita's newest Teen Hero Magdalena Gomez is an 8th grade student at Sierra Vista Junior High School. She was selected by Justine Saunders, her school counselor.

"Magy is one of those students who strives to make a difference in her own life, as well as in the lives of others," said Saunders. "She holds herself to a higher standard and is an inspiration to those around her."

According to Justine Saunders, Magy struggled academically last year and made a conscious decision this year to do well and she has done just that! "She 'dreams big because she wants a better life for herself and her family,'" said Saunders. "Through perseverance and hard work Magy has improved her academics tremendously this year. Her initial 2.1 grade point average moved to a 3.5 grade point average!"

Magy has also overcome a great tragedy in her life. Her dad passed away suddenly in January of this year, and yet she still manages to keep her grades up, maintains a

positive attitude, and always has a smile on her face.

Magy tells us that her older sister Joanne inspires her to be the best she can be.

"Joanne taught me that 'you will never know your limits unless you push yourself.' Because of Joanne, I have tried my best to obtain a good education."

Magy does a lot of volunteering at her church, donating her time and helping them fund-raise. She is also in the chorus group called Posudas' and she performs along with her family.

Since Magy's ultimate goal is to become a veterinarian, she volunteers for an organization called Straightening Reins at a ranch. Their mission is to transform the lives of at-risk youth through animal therapy.

Congratulations Magdalena for being a Santa Clarita Valley Teen Hero!



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