Federal Women & Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Special Emphasis Program Manager Accomplishment Report

Report Period: FY-2014 (October 1, 2013 @ Sept. 30, 2014)

1. Communications & Outreach

- In November, 2013, in company of several employees from the USDA-NRCS Caribbean Area, we offered a workshop to a group of Female Farmers (and few men) as part of a CIG Sponsored effort named “Initiative of Female Farmers in the Puerto Rico’s Agriculture”. We oriented more than 30 women from different backgrounds who wants to became certified farmers and create their own enterprise, such as: students, professors, housewives, and actual farmers, among others. Topics covered in the workshop were: What is Soil? Use of the Soil Survey in the Caribbean Area, Soils Stability Tests, Programs and Services offered by NRCS, Engineering Conservation Practices from NRCS, and EEO/ Civil Rights Topics.

On this picture we were discussing different topics as part of the NRCS workshop.
In February 22, 2014, in company of Mr. Luis A. García, Veterans SEPM, I participated in the “CIAPR Job Fair”, this was an activity offered at the College of Engineers and Land Surveyors of Puerto Rico. We oriented more than 100 of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Students and Veterans; most of them Hispanics, men as well as women.

On this picture is Eng. Edgar Rodríguez, President of the PR’s College of Engineers and Land Surveyors sharing with our guests at the NRCS’ booth.

In May 1, 2014, in company of Mr. Luis A. García, Veterans SEPM, we offered a seminar for members of the CIAPR’s Caguas Chapter titled “Steps to Apply for Job Opportunity Announcements in the Federal Government”. Where we oriented more than 25 Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Students and Veterans; most of them Hispanics, men as well as women.

On this picture we were discussing the Workshop Objectives.
In August 19, 2014, in company of Mr. Luis A. García, Veterans SEPM, we offered a workshop for members of the Puerto Rico’s Association of Engineers titled “Steps to Apply for Job Opportunity Announcements in the Federal Government”. Where we oriented more than 120 Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Students, Veterans and General Public; most of them Hispanics, men as well as women.

On this picture Mr. Luis García (VSEPM) and Eng. Lydia E. Collazo (FWPM & LGBT- SEPM) offering the workshop at the PR’s College of Engineers and Land Surveyors.

E-Mail Information - During the last year we forwarded many literatures received from National FWPM and the National LGBT Special Emphasis Program Managers; we have also shared information regarding Vacancy Positions, Opportunities for Detail, etc.

Flyers distributed during FY-2014 among Caribbean Area Employees:

In March-2014, as part of the History Month Celebration, we prepared a Power Point Presentation titled: “Celebrating NRCS Caribbean Area Women of Character, Courage and Commitment.”
In December-2013, we prepared a flyer to provide orientation about the World AIDS Day Celebration.

In May-2014, we prepared a flyer to provide orientation about the International Day Against Homophobia.

Flyer distributed in June-2014:
As part of the LGBT Pride Month Celebration.
During the month of October-2013, as part of a Demonstrative Best Management Practice Project, we hold several meetings at the University of Puerto Rico with students, professors, deans, and other professionals. We used that opportunity to talk about the Civil Rights and the importance the college students and professionals have for NRCS.

Flyer distributed in November -2013: NRCS’ Employees provided One-Day Training at the Course “Initiative for Women in PR’s Agriculture” (LAJAS, PR).
• In December 4, 2013, we participated in representation of Agro. Edwin Almodóvar, at the Graduation Day of the Female Farmers Group from Lajas and surrounding municipalities.

We prepared a bag of locally manufactured candies such as: coconut, sesame seeds, papaya paste, milky candy, etc., and gave it as a gift to each graduated student.
• We also have participated in the FWPM and LGBT Teleconferences with National Managers and Representatives.

Additional Planned Activities for SEPTEMBER-2014:
• We have on schedule to participate from September 24 @ 26, 2014, in the Career Fair at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus. At this activity we will offer orientation to students from the Engineering, Land Surveying and Agronomy Departments about Civil rights, EEO, What NRCS does, What Engineers do at NRCS, Soil Survey Resources, USAJOBS and the Pathway Program, etc.

Prepared by: Eng. Lydia E. Collazo
Federal Women - SEPM
NRCS, Caribbean Area
Caguas Field Office
Phone: (787) 743-2743, Ext. 112

Date: September 3, 2014