## Jessica Ramos, CPRP

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## **Dear Award Committee:**

I am pleased to have the opportunity to write this supporting letter for Dr. Lyn Litchke. I have had the opportunity to know Lyn for twelve years, as an educator and as a program partner.

Dr. Lyn was my professor in my introductory Therapeutic Recreation classes when I attended Texas State. She was always one of my favorite professors with her high energy, great sense of humor and compassion for what she did. I learned an abundance from Lyn in her classes and was able to transfer what I learned in her classroom into my professional career. After graduation, I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Lyn on the Fun Fish Day event with the Parks and Recreation Department. Fun Fish Day is a special event that takes place in January each year. We invite the children in the Special Education classes at San Marcos schools to participate in a trout fishing event and Lyn coordinates Texas State students to be paired up with around 80 San Marcos kids to enjoy a day of fishing. Dr. Lyn's involvement assists in making this event an enormous success year after year.

A few years ago, I was approached by a community member that wanted to see more activities for children with special needs. I went to Lyn with this because of her expertise with this population. Together, we came up with Best Friends For Life (BFFL). We are on our third year of this very successful program. At this program, we invite children of all abilities to attend. They are invited to bring their best friend and are paired with a Texas State student as well! Not only is Lyn using this program to serve the community, she is using it as an opportunity to teach her students. Lyn pours her heart and soul into this program and is really working to make a difference in not only our community, but in the students who will be leading programs on their own one day.

In all of my association with Dr. Litchke, she has been pleasant, has an immense amount of passion for each opportunity she is presented with and never fails to be respectful towards others. I recommend Dr. Lyn Litchke for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Service without reservation.

If you should have any further questions, please call me at 512.393.8283.

Sincerely,

Jessica Ramos, CPRP Youth Services Manager City of San Marcos