

**CHATHAM COUNTY RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF MARCIA ESPINOLA
2009 NANCY SUSAN REYNOLDS AWARD RECIPIENT**

WHEREAS, Marcia Espínola, Associate Director of El Vínculo Hispano/The Hispanic Liaison (EVH), is the **2009 Nancy Susan Reynolds Race Relations Award** recipient; and

WHEREAS, the **Nancy Susan Reynolds Race Relations Award** was established to honor unsung heroes of North Carolina who have acted in ways to bring about improvements in multiculturalism in a community by serving as role models of racial understanding and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the **Nancy Susan Reynolds Race Relations Award** honoree receives a \$25,000 monetary award; and

WHEREAS, Marcia Espínola was born and raised in Santiago, Chile, and comes from a large, closely-knit family with a strong sense of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, beginning as a full-time volunteer for EVH greeting clients and offering help at the front desk, Marcia Espínola was promoted to Coordinator of the Volunteer and Membership Programs and, ultimately, to Associate Director; and

WHEREAS, Marcia Espínola is a compassionate and hands-on community advocate who feeds the hungry, helps immigrants adjust to life in Chatham, counsels people in crisis, and motivates hundreds of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Marcia Espínola was the initial organizer of Siler City's **Clean-Up-Day** and was also one of the lead coordinators of downtown Siler City's **National Night Out**; and

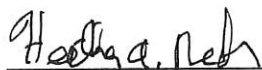
WHEREAS, through the years Marcia Espínola has been a Latina voice who has brought a historically-divided community together and who has laid a path for Latinos in Chatham County to become contributing members of the larger public forum; and

WHEREAS, with her quiet determination, fierce sense of justice, gift for mediation, compassion, and deep commitment to promote harmonious interracial relationships in Chatham County, Marcia Espínola has become a champion for Latino immigrants in the community and has brought diverse racial groups together toward a unified goal; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chatham County Human Relations Commission (CCHRC) and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners (BOC) acknowledge and value the contributions of Marcia Espínola to the advancement of mutual understanding, justice, and harmonious race relations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the CCHRC and the BOC join the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in bestowing special honor and recognition to Marcia Espínola for her laudable service to Chatham County.

Signed and sealed this 14th day of December, 2009,



Heather Rodin, Chair, Human Relations Commission



George Lucier, Chair, Board of Commissioners