

'Compassion Award'

Prevent Child Abuse of New Jersey gave employee Marisel Burgos the "Compassion Award" this year for assisting families in Warren and Hunterdon counties.

Burgos, who commutes from New York City, works with 13 "vulnerable families" in Warren County and 10 families in Hunterdon County to teach good parenting skills, providing support for parents of pre-born or newborn babies.

"There are 140 trained home visitors in the state," said Prevent Child Abuse spokeswoman Theresa McCutcheon. "Marisel stood out among all of them. She has shown tremendous compassion for her work guiding families to be nurturing parents and helping get their babies to a healthy start."

Burgos teaches parents how to safely bathe, comfort and feed infants, and what to expect as their child grows, McCutcheon said. Burgos also makes sure parents find help they need to overcome substance abuse problems, to complete their education or to find a place to live.

