

Capital One *Investing for Good*

Communities In Schools of Houston is thrilled to receive \$50,000 from Capital One to support Dropout Prevention Services on four campuses in the Houston area. Students at HISD's Austin High School, Davis High School, Jackson Middle School, and Worthing High School will all benefit from Capital One's generosity. Capital One has a long history of *Investing for Good* throughout Houston. Since 2006, CIS has received a total of \$226,250 from Capital One, who is dedicated to connecting their resources with organizations that demonstrably improve the lives of people within the community. In addition to financial support, Capital One and their employees have volunteered countless hours of service to CIS, most recently in the form of a landscape beautification project on the campus of Cage Elementary School.

Thank you Capital One for joining us in the mission to keep kids in school!



CenterPoint Energy: *Impacting Tomorrow*



CenterPoint Energy employees and Key Middle School students

CenterPoint Energy has a longstanding partnership with CIS and its mission to keep kids in school. Last year, CenterPoint Energy adopted CIS @ Key Middle School as part of its community outreach efforts to enhance the quality of life in its surrounding communities.

To kick off the new pairing, CenterPoint's South Houston Service Center hosted a field trip for students in the Key Summer Enrichment Academy (K-SEA). K-SEA is a program aimed at the continuous engagement of kids in the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).

Over 40 kids spent the day at the facility, which included a tour with break-out sessions covering various topics including the process of turning raw natural resources into the energy delivered directly into homes. Excited students also received the opportunity to explore CenterPoint Energy's Natural Gas Car and learn how current technology was allowing for the creation of more energy efficient appliances such as washer & dryers, refrigerators, and smart meters.

"These types of experiences are so important for our students," explains CIS Project Manager Cassandra Freney, "When students are able to see the relationship between science and technology and their everyday lives they become excited, more active learners in the classroom."

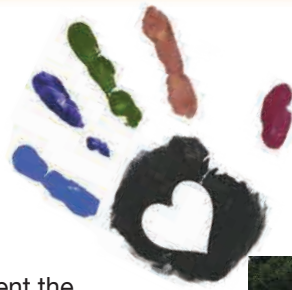
Special thanks to CenterPoint Energy's Sheila Lavender, Fran York, Gregory Knight (also a CIS Board Member), and all of CenterPoint Energy's employees who helped make the field trip such a big success.



Key MS students learn about CenterPoint Energy's Natural Gas Car.

Westbury Baptist Church

Our Community



In the summer of 2008, Pastor Jeff Berger, leader of Westbury Baptist Church (WBC), was looking for a way to expand their outreach to the community. A month later, over 70 WBC members spent the day beautifying the campus of McNamara Elementary School, and the mission-oriented church hasn't slowed down since. WBC members serve on the elementary school campus weekly as tutors, mentors, volunteer teacher aides, and volunteer office staff. As opportunities arise, members serve as chaperones on field trips, Field Day, and the school's Fall Festival. WBC's Faith In Action ministry is regularly called on for beautification projects on the campus, and the ladies of WBC's various ministries bring baked treats and host appreciation lunches for the faculty and staff of McNamara.



WBC members Leanne Isenhower (L) and Mary Jo Perkins pitch in at the school office.

McNamara is located just two miles from Westbury Baptist Church. "This is our community," notes Kristy Davidson, WBC member and volunteer, "We're called to get beyond the church walls into our community and serve." Kristy has been volunteering at McNamara for four years. A retired social worker, she looks forward to her twice weekly tutorials in a second grade classroom. "It's a mission – my way of bringing God's love. It's rewarding, stimulating, and sometimes frustrating," smirks Kristy.

WBC works closely with McNamara Principal, Tiffany Chenier, and CIS Project Manager and coordinator of volunteers, Porter Renfro, to continuously find ways to expand WBC's services to their McNamara family. "Ms. Chenier has been so welcoming to WBC," states WBC member Leanne Isenhower; "She and her staff have made us feel like a part of school. Everyone at McNamara regularly expresses their appreciation and WBC is determined to consistently be here to help."

One particular goal of WBC's adoption of McNamara is to aid McNamara's faculty and staff in preparing students for successful and productive lives. Leanne has been a part of WBC's corps of volunteers at McNamara for four years. She has three children, two of which have become teachers. "I know the challenges the teachers face – too much work to accomplish in too little time. I volunteer in the office making copies, stapling papers, cutting out letters, whatever they need," explains Leanne. "It's not rocket science, but it's tedious and can take up a lot of their time. I like being able to free the teachers to be able to be in the classroom, with the kids – teaching."



Mary Johnson (WBC member) gives a little extra guidance to McNamara kindergartners.



Kristy Davidson (WBC member) sharing smiles with McNamara second grader.

Retired teacher Mary Jo Perkins isn't a member of WBC, but was recruited by long-time friend and WBC member Mary Johnson. "One day Mary mentioned her church was volunteering at a school. I wanted to help, so I asked if they'd mind a Methodist tagging along," laughs Mary Jo. Both Mary Jo and Mary have been volunteering at McNamara for four years. Mary is a retired nurse and volunteers in kindergarten, tutoring small groups and individual students as needed. About her time spent at McNamara, "Four years ago, I would have never chosen to volunteer in a kindergarten class. It just happened and now I love it. It's a perfect fit."

In addition to supplying volunteers, the congregation of Westbury Baptist Church has a designated McNamara fund. The fund helps with various needs, including uniforms, backpacks filled with Christmas gifts for students, emergency needs for families in crisis, and support for CIS' Smiley Face Program, which helps promote campus discipline by rewarding good behavior.

CIS of Houston continues to fulfill its mission – keeping kids in school, by coordinating the needs of individual school campuses with community resources and organizations.

A special thank you to our Donors (6/1/12 through 9/30/12)

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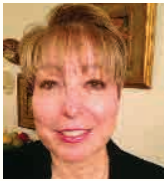
This year, the Communities In Schools' Board and Staff congratulate Sandra C. Bolden, Diana S. Dominguez, Sylvia Teague, and Juan Torres who have a combined 95 years of service to Houston's children. Thanks for your dedication to helping kids stay in school and achieve in life!



Sandra C. Bolden – 30 Years of Service
Current Position: Senior Data Specialist
First Position: Project Secretary @ Wesley Elementary School
 "CIS has affected my life in a very personal way. As a single parent working at an elementary school, CIS gave me more of an understanding of ways to excel at raising my child."



Sylvia Teague – 25 Years of Service
Current Position: Director of Field Operations
First Position: Project Manager @ M.C. Williams Middle School
 "For 25 years, Communities In Schools of Houston has energized me to want what's best for all children! I reflect often knowing that I am blessed to work at an organization that completes my mission of service, and fuels my passion and energy to live life!"



Diana S. Dominguez – 20 Years of Service
Current Position: Field Director
First Position: Project Manager @ Austin High School
 "CIS is the most rewarding job I have ever had and I have loved every minute of it! Working with youth and families is my passion. I appreciate and value the amazing family I have, and the love and support I have been surrounded with all my life. My hope is that the kids we work with day after day receive the love, support, encouragement, and blessings every child deserves."



Juan Torres – 20 Years of Service
Current Position: Field Director
First Position: Substance Abuse Prevention Counselor @ Edison Middle School
 "CIS is working alongside some of the best people, doing some of the most meaningful work. For 20 years, I've been lucky enough to be part of it all."



CIS Alumni Succeed at Andrews Kurth LLP

Miguel, Maria, Erika, and Deana have quite a

few things in common. They are CIS alumni, Austin High School graduates, and they all began their careers at Andrews Kurth LLP through the HBA/CIS Summer Legal Internship Program. The program (formerly known as the John Eikenberg Legal Internship Program) is an employment initiative aimed at giving high schoolers an opportunity to learn transferrable, employable skills by placing them with established legal partners like Andrews Kurth LLP.

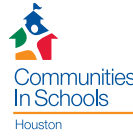


(L-R) Ron Jackson (Andrews Kurth), Miguel Graniados (CIS Alum), Maria Torres (CIS Alum), Erika Capetillo (CIS Alum), Deana Reyes (CIS Alum), and Susan Brown (Andrews Kurth).

Erika Capetillo has been with the firm since August 1999 and remembers 13 years ago when she began as an intern in their catering/hospitality services. Now, she serves as a Project Assistant. Erika has gained a variety of skills while building a career and becoming a valuable asset to the firm. "Andrews Kurth expressed that I could be more than what I thought of myself," explains Erika "My internship experience opened my eyes to the possibility of a real career and future."

Similarly, Maria Torres and Miguel Graniados have been promoted to various departments throughout their tenure with the company. And Andrews Kurth was a supportive environment where Deanna Reyes could earn her undergraduate degree in Business Administration with a minor in Latin America studies.

The HBA/CIS Summer Legal Internship Program allows students to mature, get a taste of the real world, and become productive, employed members of society.



Kids Matter

Empowering kids to stay in school and achieve in life. Fall 2012

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New Wheels for Project MOVE Dental



Dr. Cederberg (UTSD), Ginny Lee (RMHC), Margot Melchor (UTSD), Tony Martinez (CIS), Deborah Silber (Principal-Berry Elementary School), Irene Alfaro and Juan Torres (CIS).

Communities In Schools of Houston's (CIS) dental component – Project MOVE Dental has served Houston school campuses for nearly 14 years. This year, there is much to celebrate since dental services will be delivered on a new state-of-the-art dental unit, funded by the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Houston/Galveston, Inc.

CIS' Project MOVE Dental, along with its partner University of Texas School of Dentistry (UTSD), coordinates free dental care to CIS elementary campuses. Uninsured students who lack access to quality dental care are served on the dental van where they receive free preventative services. Once the initial exam is completed, each child receives a dental cleaning and fluoride treatment administered by UTSD hygiene students.

But the services don't stop there! CIS navigates the students who need major restorative care to the pediatric clinic, where they continue their care, free of charge, thanks to Project MOVE Dental funders: **BBVA Compass, The Denton A. Cooley Foundation, John S. Dunn Foundation, Episcopal Health Charities, Friedman Foundation, Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, The Links Foundation, Inc., John P. McGovern Foundation, and The West Endowment.**

Upcoming Events



Communities
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CIS Outreach Luncheon – November 28, 2012

CIS of Houston Mixer – December 6, 2012