

**Communities In Schools of the Dallas Region Celebrates
40 Years of Student Success**

40 and Forward: Celebrating the moments that made us. Investing in what comes next.

MEDIA CONTACT

Britt Carman
Westphall PR
214-566-8603
bcarman@westphallpr.com

DALLAS – Feb 2, 2026 – Communities In Schools of the Dallas Region (CIS Dallas) is thrilled to celebrate 40 years of impact in the Metroplex this year. Since its inception in 1985, CIS Dallas has been a leading force working directly inside schools to provide critical support and resources to students facing significant challenges. With a proven track record of success, CIS Dallas served over 9,000 students annually across the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) region in 11 school districts last year!



CIS Dallas' **40th Anniversary Gala** is co-chaired by *Mackenzie Kahl* and *Gretchen Minyard Williams*,
[More photos of co-chairs here](#) (credit: CIS Dallas)

As part of this milestone year, a celebration is being held at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science on March 11, 2026. The celebration will be co-chaired by Mackenzie Kahl and Gretchen Minyard Williams. The two Dallas powerhouses join forces to chair this inaugural event, with a shared passion for CIS Dallas's mission. This special evening will bring together alumni, educators, community leaders, and supporters for a night of reflection, recognition, and renewed commitment to student success.

"For four decades, Communities In Schools of the Dallas Region has been dedicated to breaking down barriers that prevent students from reaching their full potential," said Dr. Summer Rose, CEO of CIS Dallas. "This anniversary is not just about looking back at our accomplishments but also about strengthening our efforts for the future. We are proud to have positively impacted the lives of thousands of students and look forward to continuing this critical work."

Since its founding, CIS Dallas has been a pillar in the Dallas education community, embedding dedicated staff inside schools to provide direct intervention and holistic support to students, with a supreme focus and expertise on mental health. Research has shown that students in the CIS network are more likely to stay in school, graduate, and achieve long-term success.

To learn more about upcoming events, sponsorship opportunities, and ways to support the 40th-anniversary initiatives, visit <https://cisdallas.org>.

About Communities In Schools of the Dallas Region

The mission of Communities In Schools of the Dallas Region is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. CIS Dallas was founded in 1985 to improve the high school dropout rate in the Dallas area by providing academic, attendance, basic needs, and other support to students in local public schools.