The mission of Communities In Schools is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.
Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas
2010/2011

Communities In Schools (CIS) surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Through school-based coordination, Communities In Schools connects students and their families to critical community resources, tailored to local needs. Nationally, Communities In Schools works in more than 3,200 schools, in the most challenged communities, in 25 states, and the District of Columbia, Communities In Schools serves nearly 1.3 million young people and their families every year. Communities In Schools has become the nation’s leading dropout prevention organization, and the only one proven to both decrease dropout rates and increase graduation rates.

On a local level, Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas provides intensive, case-managed services to more than 3,000 students in at-risk situations throughout the Northeast Texas Community College (NTCC) service district annually. In addition, CIS provides activities and events that reach approximately 11,000 more students in the districts served. These activities include college readiness workshops, career fairs, drug/substance abuse awareness activities, Veterans’ Day celebrations and other intergenerational activities, service learning, and much more.

Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas was implemented in 1989, serving two junior high schools, and about 200 children. During the 2010/2011 school year, CIS had staff serving 33 campuses, in seven counties, and 12 school districts; CIS case managed 3,387 students who were identified by their schools as having indicators making them at-risk of dropping out.

Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas works to keep students from dropping out of school. Placing Youth Services Coordinators (YSC) in schools, CIS supports the schools by helping children identified as at-risk of drop out in overcoming potential barriers to their academic success. CIS uses guidelines established by Texas Education Agency to determine a student’s at-risk status. Additional factors that allow CIS to provide services to children and families include poverty and emotional crisis or family conflict.

CIS uses a case management approach to meeting the needs of the children served. Students must be recommended to the program; anyone can recommend a child for services. YSCs must obtain consent from the parent/guardian to provide services to the child, and must obtain a signed Release of Information form allowing them to access student records to ensure that all needs are addressed. YSCs assess the needs of each child individually, and develop a plan for service delivery that will best meet those needs. YSCs work with school administrators and teachers, members of the community, health care providers, and others to deliver services to meet the needs of those children. Student progress is measured at each of the school’s reporting periods. Grades, attendance, behavior and progress toward meeting goals are assessed; reassessment is conducted as each child’s needs change.
Educational enhancement helps students develop stronger academic foundations!
Communities In Schools Youth Services Coordinators work with children of all ages individually and in small groups to help them develop and improve the skills they need to succeed in academics.
During the 2010/2011 school year, CIS of Northeast Texas had a presence in the following schools: (ACE indicates CIS ACE Afterschool project only at that campus):

**Camp County:** Pittsburg ISD – Primary, Elementary, Intermediate Schools (CIS)

**Cass County:** Hughes Springs ISD – High School (CIS & ACE), Junior High (ACE), Elementary (ACE)

**Franklin County:** Mt Vernon ISD – Elementary, Intermediate, Junior High, High Schools (CIS)

**Hopkins County:** Saltillo ISD – Saltillo School (CIS)

**Morris County:** Daingerfield-Lone Star ISD – West Elementary, South Elementary, Junior High, High Schools (CIS & ACE)

**Pewitt CISD:** Elementary, Junior High, High Schools (CIS & ACE)

**Titus:** Mt Pleasant ISD – Francis Corprew Elementary, EC Brice Elementary, Annie Sims Elementary, Vivian Fowler Elementary, PE Wallace Middle, Junior High, High Schools (CIS)

**Winfield ISD:** Winfield School (CIS & ACE)

**Chapel Hill ISD:** Elementary (CIS & ACE), Junior High and High Schools (CIS)

**Harts Bluff ISD:** Harts Bluff School (CIS & ACE)

**Wood:** Quitman ISD – Elementary (CIS & ACE), Junior High and High Schools (CIS)

**Winnsboro ISD:** Elementary (CIS), Memorial Middle (CIS & ACE)

**Who received services through Communities In Schools?**

Children served through CIS reflect the changing demographic picture in our communities. Of the 3,387 children served by CIS,

- 8 were Native American
- 9 students were identified as Asian/Pacific Islander
- 651 were of African-American descent
- 1,240 were White, not Hispanic
- 1,479 were of Hispanic origin
- 1,740 students were female
- 1,647 were male

---

**Demographic Snapshot**

CIS of Northeast Texas 2010/2011
Aim for Success through Career Exploration!

Students taking part in CAPPED 2011 (Certificate And Professional Programs Exploration Day) at Northeast Texas Community College learned about a variety of programs available through higher education to expedite their entry into the workforce. CAPPED is a project that targets students in grade 12, who have not made college plans by March of their senior year.
Recommendation / Assessment / Improvement

After students are recommended to the Communities In Schools program for services, and after consent/release of information is granted by the parent/guardian, YSCs conduct a thorough assessment to determine if other barriers to the child’s success exist. This assessment includes a review of student records (grades, TAKS scores, behavior referrals, attendance and tardiness), as well as interviews with the child, teachers, administrators, parent/guardian, and others that may have insight about the child. Often this process reveals other issues that can hinder a child’s progress in school. Progress is monitored throughout the year, and is corroborated by school records, and teacher/administrator observation.

During the 2010/2011 school year, CIS Youth Services Coordinators worked with 3,387 students, recommended and assessed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation / Assessed Issue / Improved</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIS of Northeast Texas 2010/2011</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>Assessed</th>
<th>Improved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academics</td>
<td>1,483</td>
<td>1,564</td>
<td>1,333 (85%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>71 (33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior</td>
<td>981</td>
<td>1,387</td>
<td>1,294 (93%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Needs</td>
<td>1,977</td>
<td>2,259</td>
<td>2,213 (98%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stewardship of Our Environment and Natural Resources!

Students participating in Communities In Schools experience many opportunities to discover more about the natural resources that surround us, and how to better care for them. Through outings to local parks and nature trails, the students learn more than just about the flora and fauna they see. They learn about their responsibilities as stewards of our environment.
Indicators of Performance and Outcome

Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas bases student outcomes in academics, attendance and behavior on real-world data. CIS Youth Services Coordinators document student progress at each reporting period, based primarily on supporting documentation provided by the school. For soft outcomes (such as “Improved Self Esteem”), Coordinators are required to verify with school personnel, parents or others in the student’s life that may be able to gauge improvement in those areas. Improvements in a student’s or family’s Social Services Needs are assessed by improved conditions, knowledge of and access to resources, coordination of health care needs, etc. These outcomes can be seen in the charts comparing recommendation reason, assessment and improvement on the previous page.

Our Coordinators also collect and measure data on stay in school rates, student promotion and graduation rates. These outcomes are measured only against those students eligible for those outcomes. In other words, only students who are eligible to graduate are considered when we calculate our graduation rate. Likewise, only students who can (based on their grade level) drop out of school are used in calculations to determine stay-in-school rate. And promotion rate filters out students who are eligible to graduate.

Based on these definitions, Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas documented the following student outcomes for the 2010/2011 school year:

- Of 1,053 students who were grade-level eligible to leave school, 1,049 completed the 2010/2011 school year. That’s a stay-in-school rate of 99.62%!

- During the 2010/2011 school year, CIS served 241 students identified as eligible to graduate. Of those, 232 graduated. That means 96.27% of our students graduated!
  
  o 76 of those students have enrolled in classes at Northeast Texas Community College for Fall 2011 as first-time, incoming freshmen!
  
  o An additional 39 of those students participated in Northeast Texas Community College’s Dual Credit/Concurrent Enrollment Programs prior to their high school graduation.

- Of those students NOT eligible to graduate, 95.80% were promoted to the next grade!
Kids can’t focus on academics with a toothache...

Titus County dentists have worked with Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas for several years to *Give Kids A Smile!* Through this project coordinated through CIS, dentists provide free dental care to children in need who have no insurance and are not eligible for Medicaid. This year, our local dentists provided over $26,000 in services to the children of Northeast Texas...at no cost to the families of those children. Many other health care providers work with CIS to ensure that other health needs, including vision care, are being met.
Service Delivery
Services are delivered by the YSCs, or coordinated through the YSCs. Services are delivered over six basic components, including:

- **Supportive Guidance**, delivered individually or in groups. Supportive Guidance includes activities to help the student recognize the importance of regular, prompt attendance; learn anger management; develop positive character traits; overcome peer pressure, etc.

- **Health & Human Services Linkages**. Students cannot succeed in school if they have unaddressed health needs. CIS works with health care providers in our communities to address many of these needs. In addition to helping meet vision, dental and medical needs, CIS also works with families to ensure that parents/guardians are aware of Health and Human services that are available to them. Other services offered through this component include substance abuse awareness activities, health awareness activities, activities that promote nutritious eating and healthy lifestyles, hygiene awareness, etc.

- **Parent/Family Involvement**: Though it takes a village to raise a child, parent/family involvement is critical to student success. CIS works to encourage parents to take a proactive role in the education of their children.

- **Employment/Career Awareness**. Often the children that participate in CIS activities have had limited exposure to the myriad of careers that exist in the workforce. CIS seeks to broaden the horizons of these children, giving them opportunity to see different types of careers, to meet and dialogue with professionals in those careers, and to plant the seeds of hope for a bright future in these children. CIS also provides activities that help the students to develop pre-employment skills.

- **Cultural Enrichment**. Services delivered through this component help the student learn about other cultures, experience visual and performing arts, and participate in or observe sporting activities. Through this component, CIS also works with students in community service and service learning activities, giving them an opportunity to give back to their communities.

- **Educational Enhancement**. Students often need a little extra support to succeed in school. CIS offers additional tutoring, and provides incentives for positive performance and for meeting educational goals. CIS helps students develop improved study skills, organizational skills, and other soft skills that can help in student success. And CIS helps students and families to see that higher education is accessible, affordable, and definitely an option.

During the 2010/2011 school year, CIS Youth Services Coordinators documented over 164,286 service hours delivered to the children and families of Northeast Texas, to help them overcome obstacles that could hinder their success in school.
We couldn’t make it without...  
The support of our Advisory Board, community members, faith-based organizations, volunteers, other nonprofit service providers in the area....

And healthcare professionals like Dr. Brian Nichols, pictured above with Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas Executive Director Melody Henry. Dr. Nichols and his crew of dedicated vision care professionals work tirelessly with Communities In Schools to ensure that the vision needs of our children are met.
Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas
Service provision (hours) for 2010/2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Component</th>
<th>Hours Documented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supportive Guidance</td>
<td>24,678.25 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Human Services Linkages</td>
<td>28,992.50 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent/Family Involvement</td>
<td>12,407.00 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Employment/Career</td>
<td>5,866.75 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrichment</td>
<td>43,356.25 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Enhancement</td>
<td>38,699.50 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Maintenance</td>
<td>13,752.75 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours Documented: 167,466.75 hours
Activities at Northeast Texas Community College promote confidence and college readiness!

Communities In Schools Coordinators bring students to the NTCC for activities ranging from campus tours to productions by Theatre Northeast... from science and engineering activities to athletic events!

Here, participants in SMART Girls 2010 have hands-on experience with veterinary medicine.
Resource Development
CIS operates through state, federal and foundation grants, and contributions from local school districts. But just as important as our grants and school district contributions is the support our Coordinators receive from the community. During the 2010/2011 school year, our Youth Services Coordinators brought more than $330,000 in donations of cash, goods and services to support the children and families of Northeast Texas. Additionally, special projects such as “Give Kids A Smile”, CAPPED, and other outreach efforts brought in additional resources totaling in excess of $30,000. In total, through community connections, donations, and volunteers and mentors, CIS was able to provide the children, families, schools and communities with over $335,000 in additional resources.

Here’s how the resources break down:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Checks</td>
<td>$28,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers &amp; Mentors</td>
<td>$28,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
<td>$64,763.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental/Medical/Vision</td>
<td>$56,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasses</td>
<td>$69,740.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Donations</td>
<td>$87,944.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$335,347.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leveraging Resources in Our Communities 2010/2011
Service learning helps young people develop a strong sense of civic responsibility! Young enjoy learning about gardening and plant care through service learning opportunities that help them develop civic awareness.
Our Mission...
The mission of Communities In Schools is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

Why it’s important
Every year 1.2 million students drop out of school. What that means is every nine seconds, a student in America loses his or her path to a better future. By empowering students to achieve in school and life, we are building a stronger America, where every person is capable of reaching his or her greatest potential.

Bottom line... Communities In Schools works!
Communities In Schools works to help kids overcome the obstacles that stand in the way of their academic success.

Communities In Schools works to help families identify resources they need.

Communities In Schools works to help schools by bringing resources into the schools so that the teachers can teach and students can learn.

Communities In Schools of Northeast Texas served 1,053 students who were identified as having indicators making them at risk of dropping out AND who could have dropped out based on their grade level. Of those students, 1,049 DID NOT LEAVE SCHOOL.

That’s a success rate of 99.62%!

Communities In Schools works!
Communities In Schools and Northeast Texas Community College...  
... expanding horizons!

Communities In Schools works with NTCC to develop innovative activities and events to inspire the children of Northeast Texas to succeed! SMART Girls Conference (Science, Math And Related Technology) gives middle school aged girls hands on experience in SMART careers (careers in Science, Math and Technology). Here SMART Girls are learning about forensic anthropology.
Communities In Schools
of Northeast Texas

P.O. Box 1307
Mount Pleasant, Texas 75456-1307
903-434-8212

Executive Director: Melody Henry mhenry@ntcc.edu

Program Coordinator: Julie Lyon jlyon@ntcc.edu

Administrative Secretary: Mayra Torres mtorres@ntcc.edu