



Communities  
In Schools

Greater Tarrant County

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## **EDUCATION NON-PROFIT GRADUATES TO FIRST ENDOWMENT FUND, COURTESY OF \$350,000 GIFT**

### **Local Family Establishes Marcia Fischer Webb Memorial Fund**

**TARRANT COUNTY** – Communities In Schools of Greater Tarrant County is grateful to announce the establishment of the non-profit's first ever endowment fund. An unprecedented \$350,000 charitable gift by James H. Webb of Plano has allowed for the Marcia Fischer Webb Memorial Fund to offer sustainability for the organization's long-term growth.

Webb will present the gift in honor of his wife Marcia, who passed away last summer from cancer.

***(MEDIA ARE INVITED – Representatives of the Webb family as well as CIS will be available for interviews.)***

**Thursday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Bob's Steak and Chop House – 5760 Legacy Drive, Plano**

Marcia Fischer Webb, a loving mother and wife, was an active community volunteer who was passionate about causes addressing children's issues, poverty, hunger and education. Upon her passing in 2012, her husband chose Communities In Schools of Greater Tarrant County as the beneficiary of a substantial founding gift – the Marcia Fischer Webb Memorial Fund. The fund is the foundation of the organization's newly established endowment to honor Marcia's memory and her love for helping youth and families.

Almost 9,000 students per year leave school without a high school diploma in Tarrant County. Just fewer than seven in ten students entering the ninth grade graduate. Fighting the school-dropout rate continues to be one of Tarrant County's top priorities – and one of its most challenging problems.

- Young people without diplomas are the last to be hired, the first to be laid off, and often the last to be rehired.
- Statistically, they're more likely to be involved in criminal activity and more likely to be incarcerated.
- They're more likely to rely on public assistance, and they're more often uninsured.
- As parents, they are less likely to expect their own children to graduate, thus perpetuating the cycle.

- more -

## **Communities in Schools of Greater Tarrant County**

### **Marcia Fischer Webb Memorial Fund (cont.)**

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“For several years now, we have wanted to launch a mechanism to fund our Communities In Schools programs “forever”. With this founding endowment gift we can begin to build a legacy fund that will sustain CIS programs as long as they are needed. I can think of no more significant and lasting gift to the future of young people and to the health and prosperity of our community,” said Mike Steele, President and CEO of Communities In Schools.

### **About Communities In Schools of Tarrant County**

Communities In Schools of Tarrant County is a 501c3 non-profit that is part of a national network of CIS programs serving more than 1.2 million students. CIS is placed in 40 schools across 9 Tarrant County school districts this year, serving students who are identified by their schools as most at-risk of dropping out. CIS serves not only students, but their families, assessing their unique needs and working with more than 80 community partner organizations to connect the students with the resources they need to address a wide range of issues. The mission of CIS is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

***[www.cistarrant.org](http://www.cistarrant.org)***