

Local CIS coordinator receives honor

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Communities In Schools of South Central Texas announces Schertz Elementary school site coordinator Stephanie Armendariz is one of five national winners of CIS's 2012 Unsung Heroes award.

The award recognizes members of the Communities In Schools national network who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to students most in need and embody the core values of the organization.

"With acts of courage, acts of love and acts of transformation, these Unsung Heroes are the best in the country at what they do," CIS national president Daniel Cardinali said.

Armendariz took over a parent engagement program targeted at fathers and recruited 300 fathers to attend. Other winners included Paul Fagen of Chicago; Linda Shelley of Peninsula, Wash.; Bobby Valcin of Palm Beach, Fla., and Steven Weeks of Greenville, S.C.

"Site coordinators are at the heart of the Communities In Schools network, and these Unsung Heroes award recipients go above and beyond to ensure the students we serve have the resources and support to be successful in school and in life," Cardinali said.

Armendariz and the four other award recipients were honored on Sept. 20 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. She has served as Schertz Elementary's site coordinator for the past four years. She lives in New Braunfels with her husband and their four children.