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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 30, 2015 FOR INTERVIEWS, PHOTOS and B-ROLL: Debra Joiner | 512-464-9783| djoiner@ciscentraltexas.org

## CIS of Central Texas Receives National 2015 Unsung Heroes Award Michael Romero Named One of 10 Honorees

Austin, Texas · Communities In Schools of Central Texas announced today that Michael Romero has been named a 2015 Unsung Heroes Awards winner. Romero was recognized for outstanding work in helping students overcome obstacles to succeed in school and achieve in life. Watch a video about his work here.

Within award is shared by all of us at Communities In Schools of Central Texas for hard work and dedication to meeting studentsqueeds,+said Michael. Mand it is also shared with our incredible partners at Zavala Elementary. Principal Sean Fox, teachers, staff, volunteers, parents, and students.+

Michael Romero is one of five site coordinators honored by the national Communities In Schoolsqnetwork as best in class for their dedication to doing whatever it takes to keep kids in school.

%t Communities In Schools, Unsung Hero is synonymous with dedication and commitment to serving students,+said Gary Chapman, executive vice president, Communities In Schools. %Il of our site coordinators are inspiring and are true examples of going the extra mile and being the difference to a students success and in their lives. Wege thrilled to recognize their exceptional work.+

The Unsung Heroes Awards were created in 2007 to give national recognition to local schools, communities and Communities In Schoolsqsite coordinators for changing the picture of education in America. Communities In SchoolsqUnsung Heroes are keeping kids in school, doing whatever it takes to eliminate barriers and never giving up, on anyone.

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## **ABOUT COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS**

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. In the 2013-2014 school year, we served over 50,000 individuals in 60 schools across 6 districts with services ranging from mental health counseling to crisis intervention, basic needs assistance, mentoring, and academic intervention. 6,223 students received intensive case management, 99% of those students stayed in school and 86% improved their grades, attendance, and/or behavior.