



PRESS RELEASE
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**Communities In Schools (CIS) announces partnership
with Duke Energy, Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology**

*Duke Energy supports CIS with major gift to underwrite
partnership with Phillip O. Berry High School*

CHARLOTTE, NC – Communities In Schools of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Inc., (CIS) a drop-out prevention program that helps at-risk students succeed in school, has received a \$56,000 donation from The Duke Energy Foundation. The donation will support a partnership with Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology. In addition, CIS will work with Duke Energy employees to coordinate resources and provide volunteer support for the school.

Dr. Bill Anderson, CIS executive director, says the partnership is much more than a financial donation. “Numerous companies have substantially supported Communities In Schools during our 22-year history in this community. In fact, it was the corporate community – including Duke Energy - - that provided the financial underwriting to initiate CIS in Charlotte in 1985,” said Anderson. “Now Duke Energy is taking its support for education a giant step further by making a substantial commitment of both financial and human resources to a specific school,” he added.

Jim Turner, Duke Energy’s president and chief operating officer, further explained the partnership’s origins. “A partnership between our company and a high school that focuses on technology and related fields makes perfect sense,” said Turner. “Duke Energy wants to support education in a tangible way that will help prepare Charlotte’s future workforce, as well as excite and educate students about careers in engineering and related fields.”

Dr. Anderson noted that Goodrich Corporation has provided similar support for CIS through partnerships at two elementary schools during the past 10 years, and currently underwrites the CIS program at Westerly Hills Elementary. “Goodrich deserves credit for developing a model partnership and is a stellar example of how a company can provide significant support to a school,” said Anderson. “We are honored to now add Duke Energy to the list. This is a great way to start the school year,” he added.

Companies interested in learning more about partnerships with Communities In Schools and how they can support students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, should contact Dr. Bill Anderson at 703-335-0601, ext. 9442 or banderson@cischarlotte.org.

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Communities In Schools of Charlotte-Mecklenburg (CIS)

As part of the nation’s largest and most effective dropout prevention network, the mission of Communities In Schools of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Inc., (CIS) is to help disadvantaged young people stay in school, successfully learn, and prepare for life by connecting needed community resources with schools. Since 1985, CIS has mobilized locally existing resources and coordinated partnerships with health and human service agencies to help thousands of at-risk students overcome academic, social, and economic barriers. CIS currently provides services to more than 4,500 students in 33 Charlotte-Mecklenburg public schools. CIS is funded in part by the United Way of Central Carolinas, Mecklenburg County, and the Charlotte Merchants Foundation, as well as corporations, civic and faith organizations, and individuals. www.cischarlotte.org

Duke Energy Corporation

Duke Energy, one of the largest electric power companies in the United States, supplies and delivers energy to approximately 4 million U.S. customers. The company has nearly 37,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity in the Midwest and the Carolinas, and natural gas distribution services in Ohio and Kentucky. In addition, Duke Energy has more than 4,000 megawatts of electric generation in Latin America, and is a joint-venture partner in a U.S. real estate company.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is a Fortune 500 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available on the Internet at: www.duke-energy.com.

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