

## CIS Holds Sequins and Sass to Help With Prom/8th Grade Dance Attire

Even Cinderella needed a little help getting ready for the ball, and Communities In Schools (CIS) will provide that assistance for many young ladies who need dresses, shoes, jewelry, purses and even makeup for their high school proms or their 8th grade dances. Numerous items have been collected over the past year, and the group hopes to have even more donated by community members before Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., when the girls will come to the Sequins and Sass event at the Green Center on Baker Road to choose their items. Last year, 20-25 girls selected apparel free of charge for their events.

"We hope to have even more girls participate this year, because we're going to advertise at the campuses at lunch and pass out flyers to students." said Diane Chavez, CIS secretary.

The dresses and accessories may be kept by the wearers or re-donated to help make other girls' dreams come true. Students will have the opportunity to have their pictures taken in the dresses they select before taking them home. The printed pictures will be theirs to keep.

"If they're already financially strapped, they really will appreciate these pictures. Pictures are expensive," said Gina Rivon, CIS vice president and board member for the past 10 years.

Storing and displaying the items has always been a problem, but CIS employees were grateful to ExxonMobil representatives, who built eight large racks for the dresses during this year's United Way of Baytown and Chambers County Day of Caring.

Communities In Schools is a community-based organization designed to help children succeed in school and prepare for life. CIS touches the lives of students in the Baytown area by giving them additional support to be successful in school.



(From left) Gina Rivon, vice president of the Communities In Schools (CIS) Board, and Diane Chavez, CIS secretary, look over a few of the many donations they have received for their Sequins and Sass event March 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Green Center on Baker Road. The goal of Sequins and Sass is to provide dresses and accessories free of charge to young ladies to help ease the financial burden of attending their upcoming proms and dances.

The CIS-Baytown staff is committed to offering quality service to help students and their families overcome obstacles that might hinder academic achievement.

To help students conquer these challenges, CIS strives to stay focused on its mission, "To champion the connection of needed community resources with schools to help young people successfully learn, stay in school, and prepare for life." However, nothing is possible without assistance from members and businesses in the community. Anyone wishing to donate may take items to the CIS office at 607 W. Baker Road or to the CIS caseworkers on the junior school or high school campuses. If you have any questions, call Diane Chavez at 281.425.3304. Donations are tax-deductible, and a letter will be provided for the donors.



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