Citizens for Educational Excellence (CEE), established in 2003 by the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, focuses on the six school districts in Corpus Christi. CEE also serves as the governing board and fiscal agent for the regional P-16 council, Education to Employment Partners, which serves 11 Coastal Bend counties, and for Coastal Compass Education and Career Resource Center.

MISSION

Citizens for Educational Excellence serves as a catalyst to bring people, resources, and information together to create an outstanding educational system for our community.

GOALS

**Goal 1:** *Educate:* Be an informed source on educational issues.

**Goal 2:** *Engage:* Raise awareness of educational issues and obtain support for action.

**Goal 3:** *Coordinate:* Collaborate with other community organizations to promote improvement of education.

**Goal 4:** *Evaluate:* Assess the impact of the stated goals and strategies.

2017 BOARD OFFICERS

Mr. Ken Trevino, Chair  
Mrs. Emily Martinez, Secretary  
Dr. Arturo Almendarez, Vice Chair  
Mr. Shannon Wilde, Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Rick Alvarado  
Dr. Mary Jane Garza  
Mrs. Gloria Hicks  
Dr. Roland Hernandez

Mrs. Merritt Kennedy  
Mr. Richard Pittman  
Dr. Kelly Quintanilla  
Dr. Leonard Rivera  
Mr. Cleo Rodriguez

Dr. Michael Sandroussi  
Dr. Gloria Scott  
Mrs. Cheryl Segrest  
Mr. Scott Sherman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Janet M. Cunningham
This has been another great year for Citizens for Educational Excellence! On behalf of the Board of Directors and the CEE Staff, I am pleased to present the 2017-18 Annual Report that highlights our mission “to bring people, resources, and information together to create an outstanding educational system for our community.”

As Board Chair, I extend my sincere gratitude to a dedicated Board of Directors for their continued support and leadership, and to a talented and committed Executive Director and staff. I would also like to recognize the vital support of our partnering organizations Del Mar College, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Corpus Christi ISD, Corpus Christi Literacy Council, Craft Training Center of the Coastal Bend, Education Service Center-Region 2, Education to Employment Partners (the Regional P-16 Council), Saint Leo University, United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, University of the Incarnate Word, and Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend.

I’d like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 2018 “Leading by Example Education Advocates,” which included Windsor Park Elementary, Del Mar College, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend and the Coastal Bend Community Foundation. We appreciate their commitment to education in our community as we continue to grow. Our Board of Directors recognizes the increasing and critical importance to align our resources as a region. Our goals at CEE are to Educate, Engage, Coordinate, and Evaluate through our programs, projects, and workshops. We will continue to work to advance innovative strategies and prepare the future workforce, so we may all share in the economic success of the Coastal Bend.

Ken Trevino
CEE Board Chair, 2014-2018
President/CEO, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend
Lumina Foundation Designates Corpus Christi As Talent Hub

Corpus Christi granted $275,000 to support local efforts to increase education beyond high school

Lumina Foundation, in partnership with the Kresge Foundation, announced the designation of Corpus Christi and six other communities across the country as Talent Hubs. These cities, along with 17 others selected in 2017, earned this designation by meeting rigorous standards for creating environments that attract, retain, and cultivate talent, particularly among today’s students, many of whom are people of color, the first in their families to go to college, and from low-income households.

Each Talent Hub focuses intensively on a population critical to raising the nation’s overall post-high school attainment level to 60 percent of working-age adults by 2025. The Corpus Christi project will focus on increasing the postsecondary attainment of individuals with some college and no degree as a means of addressing workforce challenges. Citizens for Educational Excellence, working in partnership with Del Mar College, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, and other local education institutions has implemented strategies to help adults continue and complete their education.

Board Chair Ken Trevino makes the public announcement

Board Member Dr. Leonard Rivera and Dr. Janet Cunningham attend Lumina Convening led by Haley Glover
CEE 2018 Fundraiser

Building Bridges: Education Excellence Awards

April 5, 2018
5:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Del Mr College
West Campus
EMT Building

HONORING

Excellence in Public School Education:
Windsor Park Elementary

Excellence in Higher Education:
Del Mar College

Excellence in Workforce Preparation:
Coastal Bend Workforce Dev. Board

Excellence in Support for Education:
Coastal Bend Community Foundation

Title Sponsor:

BBQ dinner provided by:
The CC Mustangs

A huge thanks to our sponsors and supporters!
Building Bridges: Education Excellence Awards

**Excellence in Public School Education**

Windsor Park Elementary, a Corpus Christi ISD school, was named the number one school in the State of Texas out of 4,308 elementary schools. The principal and faculty take pride in providing the highest educational value to their students, and the entire team has created a culture of success that in turn has been adopted by students and parents. They support a standard of excellence that is second to none.

**Excellence in Higher Education**

Del Mar College has prepared more than 750,000 students to achieve their dreams since 1935. Educating students from across South Texas has produced rich institutional history and time-honored traditions. Through credit, continuing education, and dual credit courses, Del Mar College provides outstanding educational opportunities and exemplifies the definition of “Community College.”

**Excellence in Workforce Preparation**

Coastal Bend Workforce Development Board, comprised of public and community stakeholders, leads efforts to build a better workforce. Working with business and industry leaders, they provide training programs for adults and offer workforce-relevant educational and training opportunities for youth. They have been recipients of numerous awards and recognized by the State of Texas for outstanding service and performance.

**Excellence in Support for Education**

The Coastal Bend Community Foundation has awarded over $97 million dollars in grants to Coastal Bend organizations and individuals. Local students can apply for 50 scholarships using a single application form, and in 2017 the CBCF awarded $440,000 in scholarships to local students. The CBCF also established the Coastal Bend Day of Giving, an annual event to raise funds for nonprofits serving the neediest in our community.
Thank you!
CEE Supporters

Through grant funding from the Trellis Foundation, CEE, in partnership with Del Mar College and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi completed 10 career pathways from certificates to bachelor’s degrees.

The National College Access Network awarded CEE a grant in the amount of $40,000 for the 2018-19 FAFSA Completion Challenge. NCAN challenges each of the 25 nationally selected grant recipients to increase their FAFSA completion rates by at least 5 percentage points for the graduating class of 2019. To address equity gaps, this Challenge specifically focuses on cities with current FAFSA completion rates below the national average.

The Coastal Bend Community Foundation, Kenedy Memorial Foundation, Nueces Electric Charities, and the Prichard Family Foundation provided generous grants to CEE.
Coastal Compass: Education and Career Resource Center (Center) opened in La Palmera Mall in May 2013 to prepare residents with the education and skills necessary for Coastal Bend jobs and has served over 14,000 clients. As a comprehensive, one-stop resource center, visitors receive free assistance with all types of education and career development programs, and can attend workshops and classes on a variety of topics. Established by Citizens for Educational Excellence, Coastal Compass is a partnership organization and is supported by generous community organizations and partners (see next page) who provide funding, staffing, furniture, equipment, and maintenance. University of the Incarnate Word and the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce have joined Coastal Compass as the newest partners. The Center is also supported through generous donations by community organizations, which are also listed on the next page. Through space provided by La Palmera Mall, the Center is in an ideal location. The Center represents a long-term investment in aggressively growing and preparing our community for the future. By increasing educational and job attainment, Coastal Compass helps individuals earn a good living, supports employers who need skilled workers, and creates an economically strong community.
SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Blanche Davis Moore Foundation
Charity League of Corpus Christi
City of Corpus Christi
Coastal Bend Community Foundation
The John G. & Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation
Lumina Foundation
National League of Cities

Nueces Electric Cooperative
Prichard Family Foundation
Prosperity Bank
Texas Higher Education Coor. Board
Trellis Foundation
La Palmera Mall
Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend
## 2017 TOTAL SERVICES BY CATEGORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Credential/GED</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESL Information/Classes</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary Enrollment</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Development</td>
<td>736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Programs/Job Corps</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education/Career Information</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops and Meetings</td>
<td>773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Coastal Compass (on-site)</td>
<td>3,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Coastal Compass Outreach Events</td>
<td>4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL SERVICES</td>
<td>7,784</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over 14,000 people served since we opened!

### COASTAL COMPASS STAFF

- **Ms. Angela Peña**
  - Director

- **Ms. Kendra Johnson**
  - Career Specialist
Over 4,500 people assisted through Outreach Events in 2017.
Coastal Compass Events

Youth Job Fair
La Palmera Mall, May 2018

Destination: Education;
Community Education Fair
La Palmera Mall, August 3, 2018
HISTORY
The regional P-16 Council, Coastal Bend Partners for College and Career Readiness, formed in 2007 and in 2009, CEE became a partnering organization with and fiscal agent for the Council. In 2013 the name was changed to Education to Employment Partners (E2E) to better reflect the work of the Council and in 2015 CEE agreed to serve as the governing board of E2E. P-16 councils are mandated by the Legislature, and E2E has been named a “Recognized P-16 Council” by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. E2E serves all educational entities in the area defined as Education Service Center Region 2, which includes the counties of Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, Nueces, and San Patricio.

MISSION
The mission of Education to Employment (E2E) Partners Regional P-16 Council, is to promote a seamless educational continuum for all learners in the Coastal Bend—prekindergarten through postsecondary education—that ensures college and career readiness. The Council achieves its mission by defining and inspiring educational change, organizing the business, civic, and educational communities to address needs, and supporting effective initiatives.

GOALS
In support of the state’s higher education goal, that 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree by 2030, the following goals have been established:

1. Students will graduate from high school informed, inspired, and prepared for postsecondary education and careers.
2. Coastal Bend families, organizations, and businesses will collaborate on and promote educational success, resulting in a thriving economy.
Thank you!

NONPROFIT/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Citizens for Educational Excellence
Craft Training Center of the Coastal Bend
Del Mar College
Education Service Center Region II
Saint Leo University
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Texas A&M University-Kingsville
United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
University of the Incarnate Word
Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend

SCHOOL DISTRICT/EDUCATIONAL ENTITY

Agua Dulce ISD
Aransas County ISD
Aransas Pass ISD
Banquete ISD
Bishop CISD
Calallen ISD
Corpus Christi ISD

Flour Bluff ISD
Freer ISD
Gregory-Portland ISD
Ingleside ISD
Mathis ISD
Odem-Edroy ISD
Port Aransas ISD

Robstown ISD
San Diego ISD
Sinton ISD
Taft ISD
Tuloso-Midway ISD
West Oso ISD
Inspirational Speakers  
Over 300 Students in Attendance  
Community Leader Panel Discussion
Discover Your Direction:
Exploring Endorsements

SECTIONS:
Understanding Career Endorsements
Hot Jobs in the Coastal Bend
Leadership Through Military Service
STEMulate Your Career
Social Media: The World is Watching
Learning for Life: Arts and Humanities
Networking 101
Entrepreneurship: Be Your Own Boss
Architecture and Construction
Career Ready: Getting & Keeping a Job

• 165 Students in Grades 7-10
• 10 School Districts
• 25 Presenters
• 2 Keynotes
• 100% inspired
Educator Externship Program
In Partnership with Workforce Solutions

Applications Due: May 14, 2018

One-Week Educator Externship Program

This exciting program will create partnerships among workforce, industry and education to develop an effective workforce system by allowing this select group of educators to make the connection between academic skills and the workplace.

Middle and high school educators will have an opportunity to engage in activities through an externship in a particular industry and learn how classroom content can be applied in the real world.

The externship will provide the skill sets required for a given industry, and educators can then inform, educate, and guide students to industries that match their skill sets.

All externship participants MUST attend the opening and closing sessions on Monday and Friday for the assigned externship week.

To register now, go to https://form.jotform.com/WorkforceCB/YOU-Learn-Educator-Externship

$575 stipend

Limited to 80 Educators

One-Week Educator Externship Program
Week 1 July 9-13, 2018
Week 2 July 16-20, 2018

For more information, please contact Janet Cunningham at jcunningham@ed excellence.org or 361-906-0703.

77 Educators | 60 Employers | 18 School Districts
CEE, working in partnership with former Mayor Nelda Martinez, established the Education/Workforce Policy Board in October 2015. The Board includes the Corpus Christi mayor; city leaders; superintendents from the six Corpus Christi school districts; presidents from Craft Training Center, Del Mar College, Education Service Center Region II, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, and executive directors of community based organizations. With the belief that an educated and skilled workforce is a key driver for sustained economic development, the leaders created a plan for increasing educational attainment.

Through support and assistance from the Trellis Foundation, National League of Cities, and the Kresge Foundation, the 60x30CC goal and strategies were developed and then presented at the October 2017 Education/Workforce Policy Board meeting, leading to the approval of the city’s first Education Strategic Plan.

The Plan provides a “road map” the entire community can follow and is a means of shared accountability. These efforts have led to a greater understanding of “where we are” and “where we want to go.” It has reinforced the belief that by working together, using data, and leveraging resources, increased educational attainment will lead to economic growth.

**Vision**
Corpus Christi will change lives and create economic prosperity by building a strong and diverse educational pipeline.

**Goal**
Sixty percent of the Corpus Christi population will have a postsecondary certificate or degree by 2030.

Creating a vibrant economy and an improved quality of life depends on an educated and skilled workforce. The City of Corpus Christi, along with public schools, postsecondary institutions, business and industry leaders, community organizations, and families and students, are committed to building equitable pathways to postsecondary and workforce success.
City of Corpus Christi
Education/Workforce Policy Board

City of Corpus Christi
Education Strategic Plan

Priorities

1) Improve awareness and preparation for postsecondary education and careers throughout the P-16 system.

2) Use data to drive decisions and create a compelling call to action.

3) Enhance collaboration and partnerships among education, business, industry, and community organizations to align student skills with workforce needs.
The National League of Cities selected **Corpus Christi** as one of six cities in the nation to take part in a two-year (2017-18) project exploring and building equitable pathways to postsecondary and workforce success.

Dr. Janet Cunningham and Dan Korus represented Corpus Christi at the National League of Cities (NLC) National Briefing on Building Equitable Pathways to Postsecondary and Workforce Success on May 7, 2018. The briefing, held in Washington, D.C., included Dr. Jill Biden, Second Lady of the United States (2009-2017). Dr. Cunningham was featured on a panel detailing the strategies Corpus Christi has developed to expand the city’s efforts in ensuring all residents can earn a postsecondary certificate or degree and gain meaningful employment, as part of NLC’s two-year technical assistance project.
Citizens For Educational Excellence
Summary of Accomplishments 2017-18

• Awarded $275,000 by the Lumina Foundation and designated Corpus Christi as one of 24 cities in the nation as a “Talent Hub.”
• Received $40,000 in grant funding from the National College Access Network to increase FAFSA rates in Corpus Christi.
• Selected by National League of Cities (NLC) as one of 6 cities nationally to participate with a cohort to solve equity issues around postsecondary and workforce access. The Corpus Christi team led an NLC site visit, attended the NLC Mayors’ Institute with Mayor Joe McComb and participated on a panel at the NLC National Briefing.
• Hosted the Building Bridges: Education Excellence Awards and recognized four outstanding organizations in our community.
• Completed ten education career pathways for certificates to bachelor’s degrees through generous funding from the Trellis Foundation.
• Served over 14,000 clients at Coastal Compass Education and Career Resource Center since we opened in May 2013, and increased visits to the Center by 25% over the previous year.
• Hosted College Expo, Youth Summer Job Fair, and Destination: Education Fair at La Palmera Mall.
• Welcomed University of the Incarnate Word and United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce as new partners.
• In partnership with the Mayor’s Education/Workforce Policy Board, finalized and adopted the first Corpus Christi Education/Workforce Strategic Plan.
• In partnership with Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend, provided the Educator Externship Program, a one-week program for 77 educators.
• Held “FAFSA Frenzy” at Coastal Compass each Saturday in October through partnerships with higher education institutions.
• Hosted the Ready for College and Career Conference for over 300 high school juniors and seniors as part of Texas Industry Week.
• Hosted the Discover Your Direction: Exploring Endorsements Conference for 165 students in Grades 7, 8, 9, and 10.
• Assisted schools and communities devastated by Hurricane Harvey through grant funds provided by the Prichard Family Foundation.
• Continued bringing together community leaders as part of the educational nonprofit network.
• Served as coordinating organization for the regional College Preparatory Course.
## Statement of Financial Position, December 31, 2017

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Bank</td>
<td>$256,054.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>$256,054.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$100,596.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(63,403.16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net</td>
<td>$37,193.75</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$293,248.06</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Taxes Payable</td>
<td>$235.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$235.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$293,012.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$293,012.44</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$293,248.06</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets for Year Ended December 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support and Other Revenue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts Received</td>
<td>$24,754.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>155,781.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Public Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Revenue</td>
<td>10,407.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Functional Expenses per Statement</td>
<td>229,941.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>($38,997.81)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>332,010.25</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, End of Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$293,012.44</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>