

PAIGE MCDANIEL '79

Distinguished Alumni Award



You can't be involved in the Dallas non-profit world without knowing the name Paige McDaniel. Her name is synonymous with helping children in need. After graduating from HPHS, Paige went to Southwestern University, where she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. After college, she served as a political appointee in Washington, D.C. for the Honorable William J. Bennett in both the Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations at the Department of Education and the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Paige then returned to Dallas and began her career in non-profit. After working as a Development Associate for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, her hard work led to her next role as Executive Director of Wipe Out Kids Cancer, an organization which offers comfort and hope to kids with cancer, support programs for their entire family, as well as funding for innovative pediatric cancer research.

Paige then began her 21-year tenure at Community Partners of Dallas (CPD). CPD provides critical basic needs for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect (clothing, shoes, car seats, and diapers, to name a few). When Paige started, she was a one-woman show. Under her leadership, the agency expanded, and she was soon managing a staff of 15 people with a vastly larger budget. In fact, during her tenure, the organization was able to accommodate a 400% increase in the number of children served. Looking back, Paige remarked that her "most gratifying accomplishment was creating the vision and plan for the agency's 48,000-square-foot headquarters, which included finding and purchasing the property, leading and completing a capital campaign and fully renovating the facility."

Outside of work, Paige is very active in the community. She has held various leadership roles in the Junior League of Dallas and served as the Sustainer President. She is a current board member of the CC Young Foundation and AT&T Performing Arts Center. She is also active with the Dallas Assembly, The Charter 100, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Despite her busy schedule, she also found time to serve as an usher and council board member for Highland Park United Methodist Church. Paige has also given back to our city as a board member of Dallas County Child Welfare and the Family Violence Prevention Council, serving as a foreman on the Dallas County Grand Jury, and being a member of the State Bar of Texas Grievance Committee.

After 21 years with CPD, Paige retired in 2023. Countless abused and neglected children in Dallas County are safer due to her work, and she has left a legacy of hope and perseverance.