Miss Kendra Programs May happenings

We kicked off this special teacher appreciation month with school visits and fundraising. The Miss Kendra Programs team visited schools across North Carolina while, back in Connecticut, the Great Give rallied community support and raised funds for New Haven non-profits.

Pictured above: Alicia Stephen, Erinn Webb with Sallie B. Howard School clinical counselor and resident Miss Kendra, Annie Morris; the Miss Kendra Programs team with staff at Christ-Centered Counseling Center in Charlotte.
**Something is in the waters of North Carolina!**

Schools in four counties in the state—from the Tennessee border to east of Raleigh—have implemented the Miss Kendra Programs. Miss Kendra trainers visited four of these schools in May, starting at Andrews and Murphy Elementary schools in Cherokee County, then onto the Christ-Centered Counseling Center in Charlotte, followed by a visit to Sallie B. Howard Elementary School in Wilson County where the team enjoyed an amazing school-wide performance of music, drama and dance. The diversity and commitment of these schools to trauma-informed education is what brings Miss Kendra Programs to life.

We missed our partners in Hertford County this visit but hope to get there next time. As Program Director Erinn Webb noted, "North Carolina is long!"

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**Engaging students as collaborators, not only recipients, of trauma-informed services**

The Miss Kendra Programs team implemented a ground-breaking effort at Wilbur Cross High School.
this April by delivering a series of educational workshops to all 1,600 students on trauma, toxic stress and their impact on learning.

“Trauma-informed education has up until now largely meant training the teaching staff about trauma. We realized that we were missing a huge potential resource by not also educating the students! High school students are more than capable of understanding trauma and toxic stress, and by providing them the same information we give the staff, they can be empowered to help support their fellow students in need,” commented Dr. David Johnson, CEO of Miss Kendra Programs.

The trainings were delivered by the program’s team of six counselors, with the support of the principal, Edith Johnson, assistant principal Ann Brillante, and all of the Cross teachers.

“The students were very engaged and curious about the information we provided. They also enjoyed the live role-plays of stressful situations our staff presented,” noted Alicia Stephen, the head trainer.

The team intends to extend and deepen the training next year at Cross, and possibly in the other high schools that have Miss Kendra counselors.

Register for our June webinar!

Assessing the Impact of Backlash against SEL Programs
Tuesday, June 7, 4 - 5 pm eastern time

The leadership of the Miss Kendra Program will discuss the recent attacks in the country against SEL programs, claiming they are covertly advocating for Critical Race Theory, Trans and Gay Rights, Anti-Gun Agendas, and other liberal movements. These attacks strike at the heart of what the Miss Kendra Program is about, requiring a firm stand in defense of SEL, Trauma Informed
Education, and Social Justice efforts in our schools. These sentiments are being expressed not only in Republican led states in the South and West, but in every part of the country. They serve to silence our children and our teachers, and will inevitably increase the psychological isolation, dysfunction, and suffering of students who have experienced toxic stress and trauma.

Register today!

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**Miss Kendra Program at Sallie B. Howard**

**PROJECT IMPACT REPORT**

Our partners at Sallie B. Howard School in Wilson, North Carolina recently released their first [Miss Kendra Programs Impact Report](https://mailchi.mp/1e500935be63/miss-kendra-programs-may-newsletter). Alongside the data demonstrating the programs’ impact, you'll hear from the parents, students and educators in this heartwarming accompanying [testimonial video](https://mailchi.mp/1e500935be63/miss-kendra-programs-may-newsletter).

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**Our community showed up to support mental health in schools!**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Miss Kendra Programs in the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven's Great Give May 4 and 5.

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**The Legend of Miss Kendra** is available now in paperback! 

[Register today!](https://mailchi.mp/1e500935be63/miss-kendra-programs-may-newsletter)

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[https://mailchi.mp/1e500935be63/miss-kendra-programs-may-newsletter](https://mailchi.mp/1e500935be63/miss-kendra-programs-may-newsletter)
The illustrations and story will bring the foundational imaginal social buffer character to life for adults and children. Build your relationship with Miss Kendra as you take this journey with her, from loss to healing.

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