

KINDER FOUNDATION

For Immediate Release

THREE HOUSTON-AREA COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL SYSTEMS RECEIVE NOTABLE GRANTS FROM KINDER FOUNDATION FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston, KIPP Texas Public Schools – Houston, and YES Prep Public Schools granted gifts totaling \$2.75 million

HOUSTON – January 31, 2024 – Three Houston-area college preparatory school systems received significant grant awards from the Kinder Foundation to be used toward their postsecondary education programs over the next four years. In total, \$2.75 million in multi-year grants was awarded to Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston, KIPP Texas Public Schools – Houston, and YES Prep Public Schools. These grants will provide sustained funds that support each school’s college success strategies, such as microgrants and high touch advising, while also deepening their knowledge on variables that influence college persistence and completion.

“The Kinder Foundation has worked with KIPP, YES Prep and Cristo Rey Jesuit previously, and believes deeply in their efforts to prepare their students for college life,” said Nancy Kinder, President and CEO of the Kinder Foundation. “These financial awards will sustain and expand valuable programs for their students both now and as they embark on their next phase of life in college.”

KIPP Texas Public Schools received a grant for \$1 million; YES Prep Public Schools received a grant of \$1 million; and Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School received a grant for \$750,000. Of the total \$2.75 million, \$555,000 will go toward microgrants. The remaining funds will go toward college transition programming and critical staffing to support students during their transition into college and through completion.

###

About the Kinder Foundation

The Kinder Foundation, a family foundation established in 1997 by Rich and Nancy Kinder of Houston, Texas, provides transformational grants that impact urban green space, education, and quality of life. More at www.kinderfoundation.org.

About Cristo Rey Jesuit College Preparatory School of Houston

Cristo Rey Jesuit is a Catholic college preparatory school that exclusively serves young men and women who would not otherwise be able to afford a private education. Cristo Rey Jesuit prepares students to be college-ready and career-prepared. The school achieves this through a rigorous academic curriculum and an innovative Corporate Work-Study Program that places students in Houston businesses and nonprofits where they earn up to 50 percent of the cost of their education. Since the first graduation in 2013, Cristo Rey Jesuit has graduated 1,070 alumni who have earned more than \$70 million in scholarships with a 100% college acceptance rate.

About KIPP Texas Public Schools – Houston

[KIPP Texas](#) is an open-enrollment, public, tuition-free charter school network of 57 schools with nearly 35,000 pre-K-12 students across Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio. KIPP Texas is part of the national KIPP network of college-preparatory public charter schools in 20 states and the District of Columbia. Together with families and communities, KIPP Texas creates joyful, academically excellent schools that prepare students to pursue any path they choose — college, career, and beyond — so they can lead fulfilling lives and build a more just world. www.kiptexas.org.

About YES Prep Public Schools

Celebrating 25 years of impact, with 23 campuses serving more than 18,000 students, YES Prep Public Schools leads Houston forward by redefining what is possible in public education when children have access to excellent schools from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Nationally ranked by U.S. News & World Report, YES Prep is open to and tuition-free for all children. In addition to rigorous education and enrichment programs, YES Prep schools provide meals, devices, transportation, special education, English language learning, and access to healthcare, mental health and other student support services. To learn more, visit yesprep.org.