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Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas Honors Community Leaders, Employers, and Job Seekers at 2026 Awards Ceremony



DALLAS, TX – Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas (WFSDallas) hosted its 2026 Awards Ceremony, an event dedicated to recognizing the outstanding employers, community partners, and individuals who have significantly contributed to strengthening the workforce in Dallas County. The ceremony was held at the Goodwill Industries of Dallas, celebrating a year of remarkable achievements, innovation, and impactful partnerships.

Prominent speakers including WFSDallas Board Chair Harry Jones, Dallas County Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins, and WFSDallas President and CEO Laura Ward kicked off the ceremony. They highlighted the organization's growth, including the opening of three new workforce centers, and celebrated the collaborative spirit that drives success throughout the region.

"Today, we celebrate the incredible people and partnerships that keep our workforce strong," said Board Chair Harry Jones during his opening remarks. "Together, we have worked to build a community where businesses grow, and job seekers succeed."

The ceremony honored a diverse group of awardees for their dedication, innovation, and excellence. The winners in each category are:

- **Veteran-Friendly Employer of the Year:** Raytheon

- **Large Employer of the Year:** Capital One
- **Local Employer of Excellence:** Capital One
- **Small Employer of the Year:** Pregis
- **HireAbility Employer of the Year:** Friends Place Adult Day Services
- **All-Star College Award:** Dallas College
- **Collaborative Excellence Award:** Goodwill Industries of Dallas, Inc., Dallas County Inland Port, Dallas County Health and Human Services, FASTSIGNS, and James Edward
- **Innovative Projects Award:** Groundwork Outreach
- **Student Choice Award:** FAME
- **Jobseeker Excellence Award:** Tyreon Gross, Noella Rowe, Braylen Martinez, and Akelah Roberts
- **Trailblazer Award:** Shari Anderson of ChildCareGroup and Delia Watley of Irving ISD
- **Randal Wier Workforce Excellence Award:** Leeann Spell and Frederick Kennedy

The event also recognized the dedicated service of board staff and outgoing Board of Directors, acknowledging their contributions to the organization's mission.

"Look around this room today—we have our region's most innovative employers, our dedicated educational partners, our tireless community leaders, and the job seekers who inspire us daily," said Laura Ward, President and CEO of WFSDallas. "You are the heartbeat of our mission. The achievements we celebrated today are a testament to what we can accomplish when we work together."

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About Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas:
Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas is a quasi-governmental non-profit organization dedicated to workforce development in Dallas County, Texas. WFSDallas bridges the gap between employers and job seekers by providing job training, placement services, and essential family support services like child care assistance. For more information, visit www.wfsdallas.com.

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