

### Who Would Have Thought?

"Who would have ever thought that I would be visiting an actual property manager's office?" Such was the thoughts in Dominique Houser's mind as she was invited to join the Communities In Schools of Miami's school to work mentor program.

According to Dominique, who graduated from Miami Northwestern Senior High School, "being in the mentor program was one of the best things I've ever done." Dominique was matched with a mentor from KW Property Management Company. The once quiet senior blossomed, eventually earning a summer job as an Assistant Manager at one of the KWPM properties. The position was right up her alley, as she would like to pursue a degree in Hospitality and Tourism at Miami Dade College.



Dominique's journey to graduation has not been easy having lost her mother to a rare form of lung cancer after battling with the illness for many years. Since then Dominique has struggled just to stay afloat. With all of the obstacles she has faced in her young life, she considers herself a stronger person today thanks to the support of Communities In Schools of Miami.

Dominique was invited to attend the HBI National Summit in New Orleans where she presented on a Youth Panel about the impact of mentoring. She has also been awarded the Patsy and Herman Smith Fund Scholarship through the Home Builders Institute to assist with transportation and college expenses.

Who would have thought? ***CIS of Miami definitely thought and believed in Dominique!***