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Dear Friends of CIS,

Kalamazoo Public Schools had a record-high graduation rate last year and the Superintendent let us know that Communities In Schools is a significant part of those encouraging results. Thank you for helping us to make those results a reality! This annual report shares our progress and asks you to invest again in our school-based approach.

The center page reflects the power of an entire community working collectively toward a common purpose. Through the CIS coordinated approach, the community is removing barriers and giving our kids the power of hope. Because of your investment, many more students have been able to take advantage of our great teachers and opportunities to develop their gifts.

Whatever part you played in surrounding our kids with a community of support, it mattered! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Light
Board President

Pam Kingery
Executive Director

The work of Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo is supported by the Kalamazoo Public Schools, the City of Kalamazoo, the Michigan Department of Education (21st Century Community Learning Centers), local foundations, and individual donors like you.
For eighth grader DeKarieon, the CIS support he’s received over the past three years at Hillside Middle School has done more than put him on the road to success in school and life. He’s also giving back by assisting other students and connecting them to CIS so they can get on track too.

“CIS has helped me with school,” he says. “I’m doing better academically. It’s helped me adjust my attitude and control my anger.” Upon meeting this calm and steady young man, it’s hard to imagine that behavior could have gotten in the way of his academics, but it did. “I would get in a couple of fights here and there,” explains DeKarieon. “My attitude, my anger, it just got in the way and I’d always be off.”

What made the difference? Getting connected to CIS. “Especially [CIS After School Coordinator] Ms. Katherine. She helped me mellow out…And then I could focus and get my homework done. I left for a while,” admits DeKarieon, as his desire to play sports conflicted with the after school support. “But then my grades started slipping again. I really want to get past high school and so I decided to come back…people like [CIS Youth Development Workers] Ms. Jay and Mr. Alex, they really helped me understand my homework and keep me focused.”

Through CIS, DeKarieon has learned to tap into his strengths to help him calm himself down and focus. “I’ll read a book, draw, or write.” DeKarieon notices a positive difference but says he isn’t yet where he wants to be. As he puts it, “I’m only half-way there.”

DeKarieon’s hard work is not going unnoticed. Ms. Jessica Jeffrey, who has been his science teacher for the past two years notes, “DeKarieon is a wonderful, polite, hard-working student. He has shown much growth and maturity in the time that I have known him. I am very proud of his accomplishments and I look forward to seeing all of the wonderful things he will do in the years to come!”

Precious Miller, CIS Site Coordinator at Hillside says, “DeKarieon is a true leader. He’s brought in several of his peers to my office. Some are in need of school supplies or some other basic need, others need snacks and some kind of support. He also advocates for students he thinks could benefit from the CIS After School Program.”

CIS After School Coordinator Katherine agrees. “He shines,” she says. “If he sees a student going off the rails, especially the younger ones, he speaks up. He’ll say, ‘Come on guys. Quiet down and listen.’ DeKarieon really is a leader. He is a kind person. He’s sensitive to other people’s feelings, and he reaches out to them.”

Empowered to succeed, thanks to the combined investment of his school, a supportive family, and the community working through CIS, DeKarieon’s future looks bright. Upon graduating from high school, DeKarieon is looking forward to taking advantage of The Kalamazoo Promise. He loves to write and tell stories and one day hopes to become a published author. He plans to attend Western Michigan University and study journalism.

If this is what “half-way there” looks like—striving to be his best as a student, exploring his gifts as an artist, writer, and musician, and helping others along the way—we can’t wait to see what it looks like when DeKarieon reaches the finish line!

Pictured: Precious Miller (CIS Site Coordinator), Jessica Jeffrey (Science Teacher at Hillside Middle School), DeKarieon (CIS Student), Terra Mosqueda (AmeriCorps VISTA), and Katherine Williamson (CIS After School Coordinator.)

All of the great work you’ve been reading about is made possible by people like you who volunteer and partner with or donate to CIS. Please invest in local students and be a part of more success stories like DaKarieon’s. Make a gift to CIS today.
In May, CIS hosted its ninth annual Champs celebration. Around 300 people came together to honor community partners and individuals who share in the CIS vision.

2016 Champs

Oshtemo Area Churches
Honoré Salon
Big Brothers Big Sisters A Community of Caring
Angelita Aguilar
WMU Medallion Scholars
Pat Early
Team Trailblazers
at Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts

2016 Diether Haenicke
Promise of Excellence

Rosemary Gardiner
Family & Children Services
By sharing your time, talent, and resources with CIS, you know you are investing in kids. But did you know that by helping CIS remove barriers to learning, you also help leverage the tremendous work of teachers? Whether you realize it or not, you prepare students every day to take greater advantage of their teachers who stand before them—teachers like PJ Buchholz who bring their passion, enthusiasm, and competence to the classroom to help children not only learn and think, but to find their place in the world.

"I just love seeing the inner circle of children working and playing and seeing the alliances they have for each other," says PJ Buchholz, who has been teaching in the Kalamazoo Public Schools for twenty four years. A seasoned teacher, Ms. Buchholz finds having a CIS Site Coordinator, a dedicated person positioned within the school to work with students, “absolutely benefits students, students’ families, teachers, staff, and the entire school.”

“When our students don’t have their basic needs taken care of—when they are hungry, cold, or tired—it’s hard to focus on academics. Our kids’ job is to be at school, learning. Imagine being all day at a job with things you don’t have. Because you don’t have all the tools you need, you can’t do your job well. Others look at you and fuss with you; it’s hard...CIS brings those resources into the school so students have the tools they need and can do their job.”

Having the community working through CIS is a “relief all around” and benefits everyone, not just students whose needs are being met. She explains further. "Other students—they don’t want to see kids who are ‘have nots.’ That’s stressful for them. Students feel uncomfortable when other students don’t have what they need. It is not another student’s job to get shoes or food for that student, but it is a concern for that student. ‘How are they going to get that?’ they’ll say or ‘I’m worried about so-and-so.’ When they see grownups taking care of those needs, they feel better, they see that alliance in action.”

“As a teacher, I feel relief too, knowing we have CIS in the building. I don’t need to fuss or muss or write a grant to get this or that need met. It’s taken care of by the CIS Site Coordinator. The infrastructure is in place. It’s just there. And because of that, as teachers, we can teach more.”

Whether it’s the CIS Site Coordinator connecting a tutor through a CIS volunteer or partner like SLD Read or RSVP Senior Services, distributing CIS Kids’ Closet items or a Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes Friday Foodpack, Ms. Buchholz says, “We thank you for doing that! That student so needed that tutor, or that pair of shoes [in partnership with First Day Shoe Fund], or Ms. Peg!”

Ms. Peg? Also known as Peggy Liss, Ms. Peg is an outpatient therapist with Family & Children Services, and, in partnership with CIS, has been coming to Parkwood for the past seven years. “Talk about an amazing resource!” says Ms. Buchholz. “To have such a wonderful primary source for mental health in the schools, well, we’re just so thankful... When it comes to mental health, Peg educates us as teachers. She helps the family and fills a need that the student has by providing help where the student is—in the school. That makes it convenient and normalizes the support.” So when a student has been connected to this resource, Ms. Buchholz says, “that student knows that when I’m stressed out, I can talk to somebody at my school and then get back to my job!”

Ms. Buchholz says “because CIS is site-based and takes into account previous data and information, kids don’t have to worry if they will have a tutor or if Ms. Peg is coming back again. This makes for a seamless start to the school year. We don’t have to let weeks go by and then try and figure out what does this student need? We already know. With CIS, kids don’t have to start from scratch every year.”
KIDS’ CLOSET VISITS
Clothing, personal hygiene products and school supplies donated by the community were distributed to students to meet basic needs.

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE
Students benefited from 105,155 hours of academic assistance including tutoring, homework help and after school learning that supports their academic achievement.

FOOD ASSISTANCE
Elementary students received a weekly food pack, and students at one elementary, four middle schools and two high schools were served through food pantries.

VISION
Students provided with financial support for vision exams and eyeglasses.

DENTAL ASSISTANCE
Students received dental care (exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings) coordinated by CIS.
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
82,050
Students participated in 82,050 hours of enriching activities and experiences related to college & career preparation, life skills, science, the arts and more.

HEALTH VISITS
796
The launch of the Mobile Health Clinic in January 2016 allowed more students to be served for health-related issues, in addition to those provided at the Edison School-Based Health Center.

PARTNERSHIPS
76
Community partnerships are the lifeblood of our organization. Our partners worked with us to deliver services and resources to students in schools.

VOLUNTEERS
536
Our volunteers are invested in the success of students and share their time and talent with young people through CIS.

MENTAL HEALTH
3,270
These 3,270 hours of professional mental health services included individual counseling and group services such as grief and loss, music therapy, social skills and conflict management.
BY THE NUMBERS

STRIVING FOR SUCCESS

1,277 STUDENTS
Academic Improvement
CIS support has a positive impact on students' reading and math, using standardized assessments; 1,277 students working one-on-one with a CIS staff member met their year-long goal of improving in reading/math.

502 STUDENTS
Attendance Improvement
CIS continues to have a positive impact on school attendance. Students in CIS after school programs average fewer days missed than other students. 502 students met their year-long goal of improving their school day attendance.

366 STUDENTS
Behavior Improvement
CIS support may help students make better behavior choices based on suspension rates for CIS after school program participants; 366 students met their year-long goal in the behavior category.
## 2015-16 EXPENSES & REVENUES

### FISCAL MANAGEMENT

#### EXPENSES: $3,764,070

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIS After School Program*</td>
<td>$1,945,626</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated Student Services</td>
<td>$881,344</td>
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<td>Greater Kalamazoo Girls on the Run**</td>
<td>$474,142</td>
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<td>General &amp; Administration</td>
<td>$214,942</td>
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<td>Fundraising &amp; Marketing</td>
<td>$144,453</td>
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<td>Health Initiatives</td>
<td>$94,816</td>
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<td>Tutoring Services</td>
<td>$63,221</td>
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<td>Community Relations &amp; Partnerships</td>
<td>$42,157</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Making &amp; Scholarship</td>
<td>$9,474</td>
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#### REVENUES: $3,767,576

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Government Grants</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Greater Kalamazoo Girls on the Run**</td>
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<td>Kalamazoo Public Schools</td>
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<td>Foundations and Endowments</td>
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<td>In-kind Contributions</td>
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<td>Program Revenues</td>
<td>$46,323</td>
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<td>Other Revenues</td>
<td>$35,895</td>
<td>&gt;0.1%</td>
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*The CIS After School Program is funded by the Michigan Department of Education (21st Century Community Learning Centers) and in partnership with Kalamazoo Public Schools.*

**CIS is the fiduciary for Greater Kalamazoo Girls on the Run. GKGOTR revenues are used solely for that purpose. The difference between the 2015-16 expenses over revenue was covered by GKGOTR carry-forward from the previous year.
Every Gift Makes a Difference

Champions
Anonymous (2)
AT&T Foundation
The Burdick-Thorne Foundation
Catalyst Development Company
Harold & Grace Upjohn Foundation
Irving S. Gilmore Foundation
Kalamazoo Community Foundation
Kalamazoo Public Schools
Tim & Joy Light Michigan Department of Education (21st Century Community Learning Centers)
Stryker

Visionaries
Ernest J. & Dorothy L. Klimczak Foundation
Havermill Foundation
The H.P. & Genevieve Connable Fund
Kalsec, Inc.
Miller Energy Company in honor of Catalyst Development Company
State Farm Insurance
The W.S. & Lois VanDalsen Foundation

Heroes
Basic
Chemical Bank
CSM Group
Edwards Garment
The Grey Street Foundation
Maestro
Florence & Joel Orosz in honor of Tim Light
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Jane & A. John Todd

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Borgess Health
Drs. Janice M. Brown & Edward L. Birch
Maxine DeVrou
Dave & Sue Doan in honor of Carolyn & Sidney Williams
Earth Fare
Susan & Fred Einspahr
Loyal & Bonnie Eldridge
Fabri-Kal
The Hendrikse Family in honor of Mary Oudsema

Leaders
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Kalamazoo Rotaract Club
Kalamazoo Rotary Club Charities
W. Jack & Nanette Keiser
Pam & Don Kingery
Ms. Christine B. Lang in honor of Diane Lang
Diane Lang
Miller-Davis Foundation
Ronald & Joan Molitor
Sondra & Doug Phillips
Kamalaveni Pillai
PNC
Ms. M. Gayle Stephenson
Cindy Stewart & Rick Welch in memory of Ed Gordon
Ed & Doreen Thomas in memory of Ed Gordon
Darren & Bridget Timmeney
Tyler-Little Family Foundation in honor of Janice Brown
Amy Upjohn & Brad VandenBerg in honor of Bernard Palchik

Advocates
Anonymous (3)
Anonymous in honor of all the gracious people who give their time
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Beam in memory of Jennifer Beam
Rex & Denise Bell
Priscilla & Ian Blair
Brink, Key & Chludzinski, P.C.
Eric V. & Linda Brown, Jr.
Marisa & Frederick Brown

Advoates
John & Sharon Cerovski
John & Jennifer Clark in memory of Ed Gordon
Bethany Clay
Comerica
James & Carrie Curry
Judith & Aurelio D’Arcangels
Randall & Diane Ebets
Pamela C. Enslen in memory of Richard A. Enslen
Fifth Third Bank
First National Bank of Michigan
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Molina Healthcare of Michigan
Moore Electrical Service, Inc.
NALS of Greater Kalamazoo
Mary E. Oudsema in honor of Bitty Dorr in memory of Ed Gordon

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Agape Christian Church
Carolyn G. Alford
Ray & Anne Ampey
Thom & Laurel Andrews
Anonymous (16)
Anonymous in honor of Doris & Larry Chase
Anonymous in honor of Julie Ermatinger
Anonymous in honor of Michael Stoddard
Anonymous in honor of Von Washington, Jr.
Dorothy Bainbridge
Lois Baker Czirr & George Czirr in honor of Bob Jorth
Joe Barth
Paul & Claudia Wink-Basing
Margaret & Paul Best in memory of Dorothy Eberts
Bill & Martha Beverly
Kim Bloom & Peter Gistelinck
Elizabeth Brey
Don & Mary Brown
Tamara & Kevin Brozovich
Brooke & Trevor Buys
This annual report recognizes those who gave financial gifts between July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016. For a list of donors who made gifts in-kind including those made to the CIS Kids' Closet, please visit our website, www.ciskalamaazoo.org. We make every effort to recognize our donors accurately. If we have omitted you or made a mistake in listing you, we need to know! Please accept our apologies for any oversights and contact us via phone at (269) 337-1601 or email Emily Kobza at ekobza@ciskalamazo.o with the corrected information for future publications.
As part of its legacy as the former Kalamazoo Public Education Foundation (KPEF), CIS continues to administer a small number of endowed grants and scholarships that benefit KPS students and staff. In 2015-16, the following grants and scholarships were awarded:

**Clara Harbeck Memorial Fund Grant**  
*Awarded to principals for a project directly benefiting students.*  
Excalibur Team, Loy Norrix High School  
Dr. Jeffery Boggan, Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts  
Michael Hughes, Winchell Elementary

**Kay M. LaBonte Memorial Fund Grant**  
*Supports projects that enhance middle and high school students’ study of the visual arts.*  
Mandy Clearwaters, Linden Grove Middle School  
Francie Mills, Alternative Learning Program  
Ryan LaBudda, Kalamazoo Central High School

**Richard N. Percy Memorial Fund Scholarship**  
*Supports professional development that addresses applicant’s personal interests and creative or artistic talents.*  
Matt Covault, Photography  
Jana Buckhannon, Guitar  
Karen Jansheski, Stained Glass

**CIS/KPEF Scholarship**  
*Awarded to a graduating senior who plans to pursue a career in the field of education.*  
Victor Taylor

**Nathaniel McCaslin Early Incentive Scholarship**  
*College scholarship awarded to 8th grade black African American students to aid their academic pursuits after graduation.*  
Kenyontae Cheney-Walden  
Camarea Simpson
Make your investment in kids today with a charitable gift to Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo. Consider honoring or remembering someone special with a donation in their name.

Your gift can be mailed to:
Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo
P.O. Box 50372
Kalamazoo, MI 49005

Or made online by going to:
www.ciskalamazoo.org

Gifts of appreciated assets can also be made. For more information, please contact Emily Kobza, Senior Director of Development & Business Engagement at (269) 337-1601 extension 205 or ekobza@ciskalamazoo.org.

Check out our new website (www.ciskalamazoo.org) and visit our blog, Ask Me About My 12,000 Kids. For additional updates, follow us on our social media pages:

Photos thanks to Don Kingery, CIS Volunteer (Pages: 4-6, 15, and some of front and back over) along with others from contributing CIS Staff.
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE