

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Communities
In Schools

Kalamazoo

IN SCHOOLS FOR KIDS



2019-2020

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A NOTE FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends of Communities In Schools,

Here at Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo (CIS), we are a team. And you are a part of us. Just like the 12,000+ students served by CIS during the 2018/19 school year, you are *each* made of unique talents, gifts, and experiences.

As our school and community partners, volunteers, donors, parents, and staff, you bring to bear what you are made of, and this, in turn, empowers our kids to tap into what they are made of and become the successful students and people they are meant to be.

It is no small task to overcome the barriers that derail kids, giving them hope and the belief they can succeed in school, graduate and be prepared for life. Accomplishing this mission requires us to be interdependent. We must rely on each other. Working with CIS this past school year, you opened countless doors for kids in their K-12 education. Your ongoing support allows CIS to literally bring the community and all the ways it can help into the school.

Together, we are one great team! Thank you for being part of the vibrant and diverse fabric that makes us who we are. This report is a testament to your generosity, compassion, and inspiring commitment to helping kids stay in school and succeed in life.

With deep gratitude,



Namita Sharma
Board President



James Devers
Executive Director

EMPOWERED TO SUCCEED

SUSTAINED SERVICES EQUAL ADDED CAPACITY

CIS provides targeted and sustained support to students who are not proficient in academics, attendance, and/or behavior. Targeted services include: individual and small group tutoring, mentoring, participation in afterschool and summer academic enrichment programs, and mental and physical health services. Each of these services adds an empowering element to our students' makeup and increases their capacity to succeed in school.

To connect the right service to the right student at the right time, CIS assesses students' needs, sets goals for improvement, identifies and connects resources to address needs, and monitors progress towards established goals in partnership with families and school staff. 1,716 students—about 14% of the total student population in the 20 CIS-supported schools—received this level of support.

47%

of K-8 students made 1+ year's growth in **reading** from fall 2018 to spring 2019.

61%

of 9th – 11th grade students earned sufficient credits to advance to the next grade.

53%

of CIS case-managed students reduced their number of days absent from previous year.

47%

of K-8 students made 1+ year's growth in **math** from fall 2018 to spring 2019.

90%

of high school seniors working with CIS graduated with their class in June 2019.

300+

more days chronically absent students were in school in 2018-19 compared to 2017-18.

YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK IN SCHOOLS

853

VOLUNTEERS

Individuals who shared their time and talent with students through CIS, an increase of 25 volunteers over the 2017-18 school year. Of those volunteers, 26 interns provided around 10,600 hours of support.

750

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Student visits for health-related needs to the Mobile Health Clinic coordinated by CIS.

2,528

DENTAL ASSISTANCE

Student visits for dental care (exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, fillings) coordinated by CIS.

71

VISION ASSISTANCE

Students provided with \$8,457 in financial assistance to get vision exams and eyeglasses.

11,876

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Food Packs distributed to students during the school year. Four full-service, school-based food pantries also supported students by filling 350 four-day food orders. Four partial-service food pantries provided 216 food orders to students.

324

MENTAL HEALTH

Students connected with professional mental health services, including individual counseling and group services, such as grief and loss, social skills, and conflict management.

14,679

KIDS' CLOSET

Clothing, personal hygiene products, and school supplies donated by the community and distributed to students to address basic needs over the course of 6,143 visits.

70

PARTNERSHIPS

Community partners, in schools for kids, worked with CIS to deliver resources and services to students in 20 schools.



Every child has a story. This is Sophia's.

"The strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack."

-Rudyard Kipling

It was fall of 2018 when Sophia Gomez first stepped into El Sol Elementary School. Like any student encountering a new school, new peers and teachers, she was naturally nervous. Having arrived only one week earlier from Venezuela and speaking no English, she was, well, extra new. She was surrounded by new sights and smells, a different language and culture. Despite the warm and welcoming atmosphere of this dual language school, she felt like a lone wolf.

Add to that, the heartache of having to leave behind her father in their homeland, still in the midst of political crisis. Despite this painful separation, Sophia and her mother, Heidi Mizrahi—both made of resolve and determination—kept putting one foot in front of the other.

Thinking that her student could benefit from CIS support, Courtney Eaton, Sophia's fourth grade teacher, reached out to CIS Site Coordinator Levi Soto. "When I first met Sophia, she

was a little shy and scared," said Levi. "I immediately thought: Ms. Rose would be the perfect lunch buddy for her." The only problem? Ms. Rose already had a little buddy. Still, Levi reached out in hopes the CIS volunteer would agree to step in. Ms. Rose gladly buddied up with Sophia and over the lunch hour, they read and practiced English words. Sophia paid close attention and her language skills improved rapidly.

Meanwhile, Levi and Heidi kept in regular contact, sharing how things were going for Sophia both at home and school. Heidi credits this consistent communication with "being a big part of my daughter's growth."

"When we arrived in Kalamazoo, we had just enough clothing for a couple weeks," says Heidi. "I felt so grateful that CIS was able to help my daughter with some clothing through CIS Kids' Closet and shoes from First Day Shoe Fund...We have felt so welcomed by CIS staff, the KPS school staff and teachers,



and Principal [Dr. Natalie] Wilson. I feel very grateful for all the communication and support. I've been amazed by the transformation my daughter has made over this short time."

"El Sol, CIS, and our partners and volunteers—we are a community, a family here," explains Levi. "We come together and help children and families who need support, whether it's academic, basic needs, or providing enrichment activities through after school."

Surrounded by this community of support, Sophia's wariness has given way to curiosity. Her test scores reflect her efforts. In all subject areas she has dramatically improved. And when Levi connected her to Girls on the Run, she began thriving socially. "Classmates," he says, "have now become friends." Sophia feels less of a lone wolf and more a part of the pack.

"In light of the circumstances we've gone through—are going through—it's been important for my daughter to be connected to CIS. All these supports have helped her focus on school and feel part of the school, part of the larger community. I feel blessed she's a part of CIS. I'm just so grateful."

Sofia feels grateful too, "for Ms. Eaton, Miss [Ana] Martinez, Mr. [Elvis] Plaza, and Ms. [Kaylee] Rowlson. They are great teachers and they are good at explaining what they are talking about. And [CIS After School Coordinator] Ms. Viri [Carvajal],

my Uncle Luis [Rodriguez], my mom for helping me with math" and having Mr. Soto in her corner. "He's caring and checks in on me a lot. I'm happy for everything he has done for me—for getting me a lunch buddy, for getting me involved with Girls on the Run, and well, technically everything! CIS is very helpful for kids in this community that are new."

Though timid at the start of the school year, Sophia has discovered something else she is made of: bravery. In May 2019, Sophia participated in the What We are Made Of photo exhibit sponsored by Warner Norcross + Judd as part of the annual CIS Champs Celebration. As one of the CIS students featured, she enriched this community by sharing items that represented her story from which a mosaic portrait was created. Items she identified? Venezuela, soccer, running shoes, pizza, and puzzles—"the kind I love doing with my lunch buddy," and a wolf.

Wolf? "They are fast," she says, "and I like how they think." Wolves are intelligent, caring, playful, and devoted to family. Hmm. That does sound a lot like Sophia.

"There is no way I can repay you all for everything you've done," says Heidi. "This is what I envisioned for my daughter: to be and feel a part of this wonderful Kalamazoo community, to have a future here."

WHAT WE ARE MAD



ANDREA WALKER, KPS TEACHER AT WOODWARD SCHOOL FOR TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

One item that best represents me is a “book” because you should never judge a book by its cover. This quote not only represents me as a person and the issues and struggles I have overcome, but it also is reflected in my students and the chapters in their lives.

Why CIS?

I choose to represent CIS because of the work that is being done with our youth. The community of learners and the opportunities that are open to students and their families who otherwise would not have these available.



FRANK ROCCO, KPS PRINCIPAL AT WOODWARD SCHOOL FOR TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

One thing that best represents me is “perseverance.” It is what makes me continue to do the necessary work to fight for my school, my students, and their families.

Why CIS?

CIS helps us begin to level the playing field for many of our students and families. When they see a student/family need, they find a way to fill that need. They believe in the same things I do as a principal; do whatever it takes to keep kids in school so they can reach their full potential.



PHILLIP HEGWOOD, CIS AFTER SCHOOL COORDINATOR AT MAPLE STREET MAGNET SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

One item that best represents me is “water.” Water has been calming for me. With my sport of swimming and diving, the water is where I take out my frustrations. But also, water is calm, which is what I aspire to in my life. Water doesn’t judge and is important in people’s lives.

Why CIS?

I love helping our youth. CIS gives me an opportunity to hone my skills and be a better role model in our youth’s lives. I love working side by side with my staff, and showing them how their impact helps others.



NICOLE WILKINSON, CIS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF SITE SERVICES

One item that best represents me is the “earth.” It keeps me grounded and centered. When I need to reset, I find a nice place outside in a natural setting and take it all in. Every night before I transition to bed I go outside, listen, and take a few deep breaths. It is amazing what fresh air and nature does for me.

Why CIS?

I want to help students succeed and to be someone who believes in our students. I believe it is important for everyone to have someone in their corner believing in them and that is what I try to do for our students.



MELINDA KOELLING, KPS VOLUNTEER AT PARKWOOD UPJOHN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND CIS VOLUNTEER AT MILWOOD MAGNET TUTOR LAB

One item that represents me is the “blueberry.” 1.) Blueberries are my favorite fruit. 2.) Blueberries can be sweet or tart, and it is hard to tell which ones are sweet and which ones are tart.

Why CIS?

As a community member and parent with kids in these schools, I volunteer because I want to strengthen the schools of our community. As a college professor, volunteering in the tutor lab helps me understand my own students. Plus, volunteering is fun!

DE OF

At Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo, we're made of you. Whether you are a donor, volunteer, partner, staff member, friend, advocate, parent, or student, **YOU** are part of the successes we've had over the years.

We asked just a few of our CIS friends what one item are they made of, and why CIS? This is what they said...



LINNAEA THOMAS, COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF KALAMAZOO BOARD MEMBER

One item that best represents me are "maps." Maps tell us where we are, where we're going, and all of the possibilities of where we could go! When I was young, I loved to hold the big Rand McNally book of maps to navigate while my dad drove our family on cross country trips. Since then, maps have been a guidepost for me. I have lived many places and have taken many turns in life; sometimes I had it all mapped out, and other times I forged my own path.

Why CIS?

As an educator in several urban schools across the country, I know how difficult it is to teach and learn when children have needs that the school alone cannot meet. Now as a parent in KPS, I see how the services CIS provides benefit all students. And as a member of the Kalamazoo community, I know that change and growth will only come when we all work together. CIS bridges the gap between the community and the children.

HUMPHREY PRODUCTS

We are "pneuma." The ancient Greek word "pneuma" means breath of life or spirit and this represents the spirit of our organization, and our products. Pneumatics is a mixture of the elements air (in motion) and fire (as warmth). We love a good double entendre! Humphrey Products is a manufacturer of pneumatic valves, but it is our employees that breathe life into Humphrey.

Why CIS?

We share a recognition of the many barriers that can exist for students to achieve their full potential as successful citizens in our community...and perhaps even future employees at Humphrey. We especially appreciate CIS's efforts to utilize an analytically driven model to help identify root causes and to address issues, remeasure, refocus and readdress where necessary. We believe the methods employed by CIS of Kalamazoo are effective and efficient, and we are proud to be involved with their efforts to enrich our entire community.

KALSEC®

One item that best represents Kalsec is "nature." We place a great deal of emphasis on science and research that create a scientific curiosity about how to take what nature has given us and use it wisely.

Why CIS?

The spirit of diversity, development, and the varying levels of education of employees that make up the Kalsec family demonstrates and aligns with CIS and the importance they put on education for everyone. We are inspired and grateful for the CIS organization and their mission to serve students who need help and support to gain an education. Therefore, we choose to be a donor and advocate for CIS. We are proud to be associated with the work CIS does in our community and the students and families they serve.

HIEMSTRA OPTICAL

We at Hiemstra Optical are made of "Focus!"

This is why our motto is "Hiemstra Optical - Focused On You." We focus on healthy vision, treating our patients like family and continued community outreach. Maintaining our "Focus" has allowed us to partner with CIS the last several years in service to our community. We feel that all members of our communities, regardless of financial status, deserve the respect and opportunity to succeed. We are pleased that we were able to donate school supplies the last several years. We were so excited to be able to offer the vision services of VSP's Mobile Clinic this year. We are proud to call Communities In Schools our partner and look forward to "Focusing" on next year's events.

As part of our community of support, thank you for being you, and for your continued commitment to kids in our community!



CELEBRATING THE CHAMPS AMONG US

ALL IN FOR KIDS

In May, more than 400 of you joined us at the 12th annual Champs Celebration to honor and recognize many community partners and volunteers who actively work to aid our students in realizing their full potential.

2019 CHAMPS

Gary Heckman, CIS volunteer at Milwood Magnet Middle School

Dedrenna & Isaiah Hoskins, CIS volunteers at Washington Writers' Academy

Rod Raven, KPS Lead Activity Helper and basketball coach at Arcadia Elementary School

Swan Snack Emporium, CIS business partner



2019 GULNAR HUSAIN VOLUNTEER AWARD

Volunteer Leadership Advisory Council (VLAC)

Members are Jeme Baker, Jashaun Bottoms, Chartanay Bonner, Pam Dalitz, Theresa Hazard, Moises Hernandez, Dedrenna Hoskins, Rollie Morse, Richard Phillips, Howard Tejchma, and Marti Terpstra.



2019 DIETHER HAENICKE PROMISE OF EXCELLENCE

Barry Ross and Jane Rooks Ross



Presented by



2018-19

EXPENSES & REVENUES

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

2018-19 EXPENSES

\$3,563,342

21st CCLC After School Programs	\$1,706,040
Integrated Student Services	\$1,018,659
Volunteer and Partnerships	\$151,963
Grantmaking & Scholarship	\$8,940
Health	\$166,046
General & Administration	\$331,746
Fundraising & Marketing	\$179,948

2018-19 REVENUE*

\$2,945,115

Contributions	\$228,455
Foundations and Endowments	\$364,734
Government Grants	\$1,756,040
Kalamazoo Public Schools	\$449,640
Program Revenues	\$43,157
In-kind contributions	\$101,865
Other revenues	\$1,224

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.

*Gifts Made to the Promise Me Campaign, launched in 2012, are used to cover 2018-19 operating expenses. Those gifts were accrued in a prior year's revenue, but used against this year's expenses.

COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE

EVERY GIFT KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL

THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU

CHAMPIONS

Anonymous
Catalyst Development Co., LLC
City of Kalamazoo
Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation
Irving S. Gilmore Foundation
Kalamazoo Community Foundation
Kalamazoo Public Schools
The Marvin & Rosalie Okun Foundation
Michigan Health Endowment Fund
Stryker
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Miller-Davis Foundation
Molina Healthcare of Michigan
Ron and Joan Molitor
Don and Ann Parfet
Jim and Lynn Ross
Karl Sandelin
In honor of Pam Kingery
In memory of Joyce Sandelin
M. Gayle Stephenson
The Edward J. Fletcher Foundation
John and Linnaea Thomas
Darren and Bridget Timmeney
TowerPinkster
Tyler Little Family Foundation
Elizabeth Upjohn Mason
In honor of Tim Light
Matthew Van Dyk
Erik and Michele VanAllen
In honor of Kelvin Lee
John and Jennifer Ward
Warner Norcross + Judd LLP
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Carolyn and Sidney Williams
In honor of Pam Kingery
Sara Williams

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Dr. Tamiko Garrett*
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Dorothy Bainbridge
In honor of Dorothy and her grandson Ryan
Lois Baker-Czirr and George Czirr
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Don and Kathleen Cooney
John Curran and Sakhi Vyas
Judith and Aurelio D'Arcangelis
In honor of KPS elementary principals
Pam Dalitz
In memory of Ruth Dalitz
Steve and Marlene Denenfeld
*In honor of Bob and Kathy Straits' 50th
Wedding Anniversary*
In honor of Randy Eberts' Retirement
Valerie Denghel and Allen Medlin
Kristen and Dan Dewitt
In honor of Reese and Bennett Cleary
Barbara Dixon
In memory of Ronald B. Stephens
Bob and Etsuko Dlouhy
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Moyra Ebling
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In memory of Spencer Betke
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In honor of staff and volunteers
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In memory of Jewel Clomon
Hans Engelke
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Ann and Gary Fergemann
Steve and Connie Ferguson
Chris and Dick Fink
Lydia Fink-Cox and Allen Cox
In honor of our daughter
David and Mary Ellen Fischer
Michael, Dawn and Logan Fisher
In honor of Logan Fisher
Marguerite Forrest
Staff of Friendship Village
Diane Fuller
David and Rosemary Gardiner
Dorothy Giovannini
Richard and Frances Glass

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James and Enola Lininger
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Jane Lloyd

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Rosalie and Joe Novara
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Mark Orbe and Natalie Jones Orbe
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In honor of Bitty Dorr
In memory of Ronald B. Stephens

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In memory of Ronald B. Stephens

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Susan Paul and David Lundquist
In memory of Spencer Betke
Edward and Maureen Pawlak
In honor of Pam Kingery

Adele Paxson
In honor of KPS teachers & staff
Emily and Jeffrey Pearson
Andrew Peavler
In memory of Spencer Betke

Melanie Perry
In memory of Spencer Betke
The Peterson Family
In memory of Spencer Betke

Doug Phillips
Thomas and Mary Platte
In memory of Ronald B. Stephens

Tom and Linda Powell
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at Hillside*

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The Skuratowicz Family
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Edward Smith

Charles D. Spencer
In memory of Dianne L. Spencer

Dale and Juanita Steeby
Ron and Margaret Strzelecki
Christopher and Nancy Sundberg
Daniel Taylor

Marti Terpstra
In honor of Nicky Aiello for her Rotary award
In honor of Pam Kingery
In honor of Paul & Cheryl Terpstra
In honor of Rick & Trudy Johnson

The Therkildsen Family
Carol Trittschuh
Unifab Corporation
University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point
English Department

In memory of Ronald B. Stephens
Wendy Van Peenan and Rod Malcolm
Jon and Courtenay VanderMolen
In honor of Pam Kingery

Carrie and Bill Venema
Jenna Verne
In memory of Spencer Betke

Moses and Ruthie Walker
Holly and Joe Walls
Holly and Joe Walls
In honor of Pam Kingery

Susan Warner and Mike Straubel
Von and Fran Washington
Ineke Way
Ineke Way

In honor of Pam Kingery
D. Terry and Sharon Williams
In honor of David James Williams II
Elaine M. Williams
In memory of James A. Williams

Roger and Molly Williams
In memory of Spencer Betke
Myra Willis and Steve Stankewicz
Joyce Winch
Edwin Woll

In honor of Fred Tomko

This annual report recognizes those who gave financial gifts between July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019. For a list of donors who gave in-kind gifts, including those made to the CIS Kids' Closet, visit our website, www.ciskalamazoo.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 (269) 337-1601 or email Felicia Lemons at: flemons@ciskalamazoo.org with the corrected information for future publications.

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

CONTINUING A LEGACY

As part of our 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 2018-19, the following grants and scholarships were awarded.

CLARA HARBECK MEMORIAL FUND GRANT

Awarded to principals for a project directly benefiting students

The Blanket Project, Winchell Elementary

Purple Hands Project, Indian Prairie Elementary School

KAY M. LABONTE MEMORIAL FUND GRANT

Supports projects that enhance middle and high school students' study of the visual arts

You've Been Framed, Matthew Douglas

Cultivating Creativity, Gayle A. James

Stop Motion Animation, Lindsey Borsvold

Light Painting Filmmaking, Rana Findling

JACK HAMILTON MEMORIAL FUND GRANT

Supports projects that bring performing, visual, or literary arts into an elementary classroom or school

Tempera Stick Kente Cloth Weaving, Mandy Clearwaters

Empty Bowls to Combat Hunger, Christine Folck

Click! His There: Was That Your Intention?, Nancy Klee

RICHARD N. PERCY MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP

Supports professional development of KPS teachers and administrators that address their personal interests and creative or artistic talent

Douglas Duncan

Jessica Wallace

CIS/KPEF SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to a graduating senior who plans to pursue a career in the field of education

Karis Clark

Olivia Mears

NATHANIEL MCCASLIN EARLY INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP

College scholarship awarded to 8th grade black African-American students to aid their academic pursuits after graduation

Jadakiss Lewis (Kalamazoo Central High School)

Madisyn Caldwell (Loy Norrix High School)

T'ah-Zay Gardner (Kalamazoo Innovative Learning Program – KILP)

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ciskalamazoo.org



Communities
In Schools

Kalamazoo

IN SCHOOLS FOR KIDS

2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT