

## CIS EMERGING LEADERS: OVERVIEW

### Purpose:

The Emerging Leaders for Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo (CIS) make a positive impact in our community by supporting student success in Kalamazoo. The group plans and participates in activities that further the mission of CIS: **to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.** The group supports student success in many ways including tutoring, mentoring, career-focused enrichment, college prep, and fundraising. Members of the group also join together in social, networking, and professional development activities.

### Expectations:

Emerging Leaders may choose to participate in several ways, including:

- Sharing their knowledge, skills, and experiences with students through one of several volunteer opportunities (see below for details)
- Investing in student success through financial support to CIS
- Participating in social, networking and training opportunities
- Generating awareness in the community by engaging personal and professional networks
- Serving in a leadership role to help organize the activities of the group

### Benefits:

- Personal fulfillment through supporting student success in Kalamazoo
- Professional development opportunities
- Social and networking opportunities
- Recognition in CIS communications
- Opportunity to serve in a leadership position with the CIS Emerging Leaders

### Volunteer opportunities:

Members are encouraged to volunteer with students at some point each year. Opportunities to help plan Emerging Leaders group activities also exist.

Opportunity	Time commitment	Description
<b>Mentoring:</b> elementary emerging leaders	WEEKLY: 1 hour per week, September-June	Mentor elementary students who have been identified as emerging leaders in their building
<b>Tutoring:</b> age and location of your choice	WEEKLY: 1 hour per week, September-June	Work with one student, a group of students or a classroom to support student academics as a tutor
<b>Career exploration:</b> elementary or middle school	ONE-TIME: 2 hours (plus planning)	A great opportunity to introduce students to careers, skills and experiences during a 6-week block of career exploration with our afterschool program; a different career will be highlighted each week
<b>Mentoring:</b> Career Prep Club for high schoolers	MONTHLY: 1-2 hours per month, September-June (4-year commitment)	Mentors are matched with a student to mentor from 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade. Students in the program are motivated to graduate from college or trade school and are likely to lack in-home resources for college/trade school preparation. The Career Prep Club also offers career panels, field trips and other opportunities for students and mentors to participate in activities as a group.
<b>Planning:</b> emerging leaders group coordination	MONTHLY: 2-3 hours per month, as desired	Volunteers are needed to help plan and organize social, networking, professional development and fundraising events for the group.

## About CIS

Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo ensures that every student, regardless of race, zip code, or socioeconomic background has what they need to realize their potential in school and beyond. Working directly inside 22 schools in Kalamazoo, we connect students to caring adults and community resources that help them see, confront, and overcome the barriers that stand between them and a brighter future. Together, we build a powerful change movement made up of peers, students, and alumni committed to shaping an equitable path to education for future generations.

Founded By Kalamazoo Public Schools, the Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce and the City of Kalamazoo in 2003. That year, CIS was in 7 schools and managed 4 afterschool programs.

CIS is now embedded in 22 schools during the day and 15 during afterschool.

Building principals voluntarily elect to have CIS in their buildings and pay approximately 50% of site coordinator costs (typically paid from Title I funds). Staffing levels determined by school's ability to match for part-time or full-time.

## Mission and Vision

**Mission:** to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and succeed in life.

**Vision:** an engaged community where every child can succeed and grow.

## The CIS Five Basics

1. A one-on-one relationship with a caring adult
2. A safe place to learn and grow
3. A healthy start and a healthy future
4. A marketable skill upon graduation
5. A chance to give back to peers in the community

## Our Unique Model



## CIS of Kalamazoo: embedded in 22 schools:

### Elementary Schools

Arcadia Elementary  
Edison Environmental Science Academy  
El Sol Elementary  
King-Westwood Elementary  
Lincoln International Studies School  
Milwood Elementary  
Northeastern Elementary  
Northglade Montessori Magnet School  
Parkwood-Upjohn Elementary  
Prairie Ridge Elementary  
Spring Valley Center for Exploration  
Washington Writers' Academy  
Woods Lake Elementary  
Woodward School for Technology & Research

### Middle Schools

Hillside Middle School  
Linden Grove Middle School  
Maple Street Magnet School for the Arts  
Milwood Magnet: A Center for Math, Science

### High Schools

Kalamazoo Central High School  
Loy Norrix High School  
Phoenix High School

### Other: young 5s through 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Paramount Charter Academy

## Return on investment

15:1 ROI for each dollar invested in school-based wraparound services<sup>1</sup>

11:1 ROI for each dollar invested in SEL skill-building<sup>2</sup>

1:1 KPS match of donations to CIS for site coordinator expenses

CIS provides a school-based, no-cost infrastructure for many community-based service providers

<sup>1</sup>Learning Policy Institute, 2017; <sup>2</sup>CASEL, 2015