

Who is Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo?

We are glad you asked...

Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo is an affiliate of a national organization with presence IN schools across 26 states. Locally, CIS of Kalamazoo has formed a network of trust and collaboration with our local schools and partners to support kids in 22 school buildings.

The mission of CIS of Kalamazoo is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. To do this, CIS site coordinators are embedded inside the school and work with school staff, community partners, and families to 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.

To learn more about a site coordinator and how they connect with students, check out our video!

CIS Supports:



Why support from you is so important!

Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo is a local non-profit that is funded through local foundations, local businesses, and community members like you!

These are just a few examples of the impact of your support:

- \$200 provides support to an entire school for a day
- \$100 provides a therapy session for a student in need of mental health support
- \$50 provides warm winter gear for a student
- \$30 provides personalized academic, attendance, and behavioral support to a student for a week
- \$10 provides support to a CIS student for a day

You will likely be surprised by how quickly funds will be raised when we all work together. We encourage you to keep two key things in mind regarding fundraising: 1) it feels good to give, and 2) people give because they are invited by someone they trust (that's you!). The #1 reason people give is because they were asked.

Consider these steps when you are sending inquiries:

- Reflect on your purpose...who/what fuels your miles?
- Set a fundraising goal and make a list of possible supporters
- Create your ask; make it personal, honest and easy to act (don't forget to share it with your team members to help inspire their message as well!)
- Share your ask with your network through multiple channels; send direct requests with names rather than a bulk message for best results
- Share updates with those who gave and updates plus reminders to those you hope will give; people will appreciate the reminder
- Thank people as soon as they give and share updates throughout and/or at the conclusion of the month.

Sample fundraising message:

I am excited to join others in our community to Walk With Purpose benefiting students in Kalamazoo through Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo (CIS). CIS is a local non-profit that works with students to help them overcome barriers that stand between them and a brighter future.

This October, I am working together with other community members to walk a cumulative 12,000 miles. The miles are symbolic of the 12,000 students that CIS (and I) supports!

It takes a community to support our students and it will take a community to reach our goals. My personal goal is to walk [xx] miles and raise \$[xxxx]. Will you help me get to my goal? Here is a link to my fundraising page: [insert link].

Thank you for your support and consideration.