



Communities  
In Schools®

Kalamazoo

# Champs Celebration

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Radisson Plaza Hotel

A celebration of community members who go above and beyond for kids.



## OUR MISSION:

surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT  
OUR WORK!**

Contact us:

Kim Nemire, Director of Development

[knemire@ciskalamazoo.org](mailto:knemire@ciskalamazoo.org)

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Champs celebrates our community's commitment to education and honors those who empower students to realize their full potential.

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# Supporting CIS of Kalamazoo

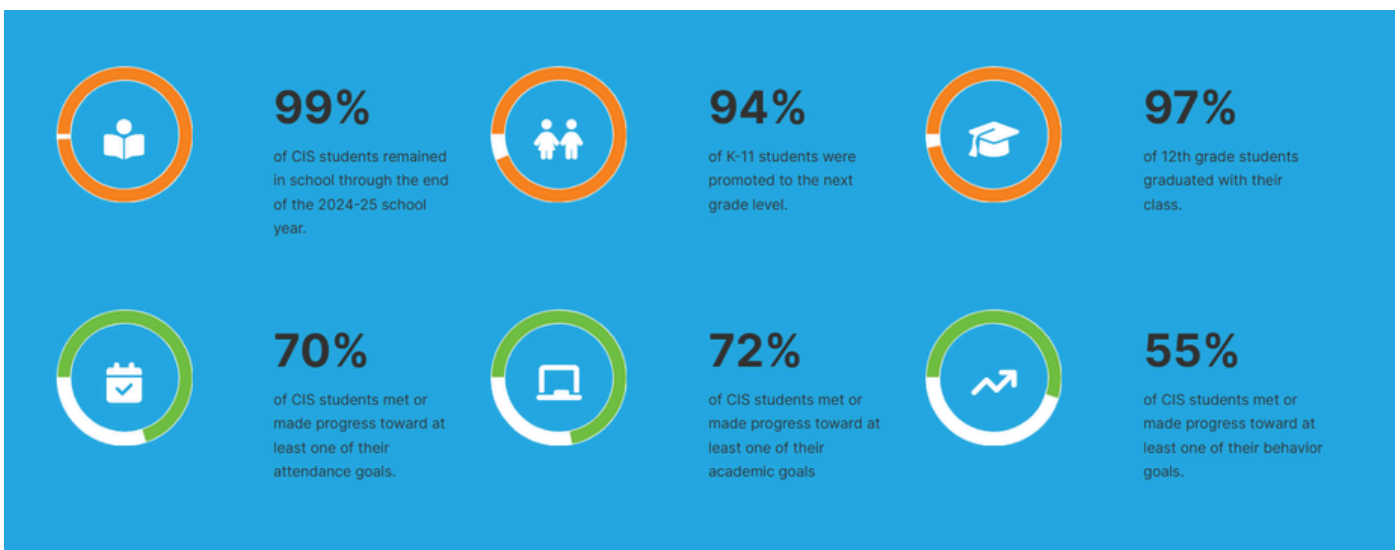
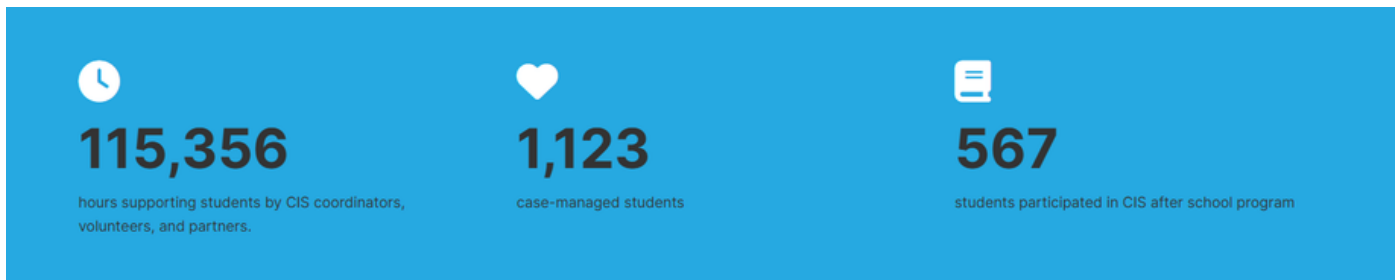
Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo (CIS) is an affiliate of a nationwide network of passionate professionals who are working in schools, assessing needs, and coordinating supports for students. We currently serve nearly 12,000 elementary, middle, and high school students in 23 schools across Kalamazoo.

We collaborate with school-based teams to understand the school and students' needs to deliver resources directly to students. Resources like: tutoring, dental and vision care, mental health services, food support, after-school programming, career exploration, and much more.

CIS addresses the most vulnerable students in a unique way. We ask the question, "What is preventing this student from coming to school ready to learn?" The ways we respond are as unique as each child. Our work unlocks student potential, and breaks down barriers preventing them from achieving success.

**CIS is recognized as a national leader in student drop-out prevention, ensuring that future generations are empowered to succeed.**

## 2024-2025 School Year



# Integrated Student Supports

The Integrated Student Supports (ISS) model is our evidence-based model that places one or multiple professionals (called site coordinators) into 23 Kalamazoo schools.

Our model is designed to bring resources from our community into the school, where students may benefit from them. Our coordinators, with the help of school staff, identify students who need supports the most.

We believe every student needs and deserves a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a healthy start and a healthy future, a marketable skill to use upon graduation, and a chance to give back to peers and their community.



### SUPPORTS:

- Academic Assistance
- Basic Needs
- Behavioral Intervention
- College & Career Prep
- Community & Service Learning
- Enrichment
- Family Engagement
- Life Skills
- Mental Health
- Physical Education



21,344 food packs were distributed while students were at school.



3,990 professional counseling sessions were completed for 350 students.



11,002 hours of support were provided by 452 volunteers empowering students.



21,970 items of clothing, personal hygiene products, and school supplies were distributed to address students' basic needs.

# What is the Champs Celebration?

The Champs Celebration is an annual event to highlight those who have gone above and beyond for kids through Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo. The event offers an opportunity to celebrate our community's value of education and to honor those who are present for students and empower them to realize their full potential.

There are four awards presented during the evening; Champs Award, Gulnar Husain Volunteer Award, Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo Staff Appreciation, and the Diether Haenicke Promise of Excellence Award. Award recipients are nominated by CIS staff members, CIS board members, Kalamazoo Public Schools' leadership, and the City of Kalamazoo leadership.

## Schedule of Events

4p - 5p Reception includes light appetizers and cash bar

5p - 6p Awards Program

Champs Award  
Gulnar Husain Volunteer Award  
CIS Staff Recognition  
Diether Haenicke Promise of Excellence Award



*2025 Gulnar Husain Volunteer Award recipient  
Richard Phillips*



*2025 Champ Award  
recipient First Day  
Shoe Fund*



*2025 Diether Haenicke Promise of Excellence  
Award recipient The Kalamazoo Promise*



# Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsoring the 2026 Champs Celebration provides great benefits to your company, as well as direct support to our mission. Thank you for being a part of this heartwarming event and making a difference in the lives of kids.

Sponsorship Benefits

	Graduate (\$10,000) * Limited to 2	Senior (\$5,000)	Junior (\$2,500)	Sophomore (\$1,000)	Freshman (\$500)
Welcome remarks (possibly video)					
Recognition in all event materials & promotion					
Dedicated sponsorship recognition on CIS Kalamazoo blog and social media platforms (Facebook and LinkedIn)					
Award ceremony sponsor					
Pre/post ceremony (reception) sponsor					
Logo inclusion in the event slide show					
Reserved seats at event	8	8	6	4	2
Logo on CIS website under corporate partners					
Program inclusion (printed)	Full Page ad	1/2 Page ad	1/4 Page ad	1/4 Page ad	Logo
Inclusion in Excelsior thank you ad					
Logo inclusion on email blast to CIS supporters					
Inclusion on Champs Celebration landing page					
Sponsorship recognition in blog story with social posting					
Inclusion on press release to announce recipients					
Recognition during a CIS board meeting (May)					

\*Graduate level only: to ensure you receive all benefits, sponsorship deadline is 3/6/26.

### Sponsorship Commitment

Yes, our company will sponsor Champs at the following level:

- Graduate (\$10,000 - limit of 2)
- Senior (\$5,000)
- Junior (\$2,500)
- Sophomore (\$1,000)
- Freshman (\$500)



Please fill out form and return by 3/27/2026 to Felicia Lemons at: [flemons@ciskalamazoo.org](mailto:flemons@ciskalamazoo.org).

#### Contact Information:

Name	
Company	
Address	
Phone	
Email	

#### Select (one):

- Check is enclosed (payable to CIS of Kalamazoo)
- Please invoice me.