At Communities In Schools of Mid-America, we serve with both heart and intellect…working with grit and determination every day to help some of our country’s most vulnerable children and teens break through the barriers standing between them and futures full of accomplishment and hope, by delivering a sophisticated, evaluated, evidence-based model of integrated student support services.

The Communities In Schools student who receives intensive support and improves their school performance today can become the adult who breaks the cycle of poverty and lack of education for his or her family. The Communities In Schools student who receives basic services such as food to last through hungry weekends or referrals to medical care to address an untreated life-altering condition can become the adult who takes their rightful place as a thriving contributor in our states. And the Communities In Schools student who is surrounded by caring Communities In Schools staff and volunteers who never give up can become the young person and adult who never gives up.


The past year has been another year of significant developments for Communities In Schools of Mid-America, in both expansion and growth of our services and important strides in our organizational development. Our visionary model of establishing expansion under our 501c3, rather than establishing new, separate entities that operate with heavily duplicative administrative infrastructures, has continued to enable us to deliver higher quality services at significant cost efficiencies, thus serving far more students for the same dollars.

The impact of your support of Communities In Schools of Mid-America cannot be overestimated, and our gratitude for that support cannot be overstated. Thank you for all you do for the students we serve.
The expansion of CIS into a multi-state organization continues to be exhilarating as well as a bit daunting. Exhilarating because we know CIS programs work and the need is great; daunting because the resources required to support and sustain programming are significant.

The board continued its focus on strategically expanding its membership and work to properly reflect and support a multi-state organization. We compared and discussed the roles/responsibilities of boards of local and multi-state organizations. Members also participated in individual strength assessments, from which gaps were identified. That information, as well as identification of needed skill sets, is being used to strategically recruit board members.

The board calendar was adjusted to hold the annual retreat in March, thereby providing adequate time to develop goals and plans for the coming year, which begins July 1.

Finally, a three-year strategic plan, which will guide us for the years 2017-2019, is being developed. In order to gain additional resources, we are exploring marketing opportunities, the development of non-traditional income sources and seeking partnerships that enhance and/or expand services and programs currently offered.

We know our programs work and look forward to continued growth and expansion. But we also recognize the challenge of providing sustainable resources will continue.
Communities In Schools released the results of an economic impact study conducted by EMSI, one of the nation’s leading economic modeling firms. The purpose of the study was to quantify the return on investment of Communities In Schools’ 113 high school-serving affiliates in its network to taxpayers, businesses, and students. Among the 2012 findings:

- The average annual rate of return to society is 18.4%.
- The benefit/cost ratio is 11.6, which means that every dollar invested in Communities In Schools creates $11.60 of economic benefit for the community.
- High school graduates will be net contributors to their communities for an average of 44 years of their working life, using their increased income to purchase homes and cars, and paying taxes that will support the police officers, firefighters and teachers.
The Student Impact

Communities In Schools gained significant proof that what we do works. Over five years, ICF International conducted an evaluation of our work with students and schools across the country. Multi-level, multi-method, multi-phase, gold-standard research, the study was the largest and most comprehensive evaluation of dropout prevention programs ever completed. Among the 2011 outcomes are:

- Communities In Schools is one of very few organizations proven to keep students in school.
- It is the only one proven to increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates.
- More Communities In Schools students reach proficiency in 4th and 8th grade reading and math.

Read more about the economic impact study and the evaluation on our website, cismidamerica.org.
Our Student Achievement Among Case-Managed Students:

- 93% seniors graduated
- 97% stayed in school
- 99% stayed in school
- 81% improved attendance
- 83% improved academics
- 88% improved behavior
- 97% were promoted
- 81% improved attendance
We provided services during FY 2015 in the Kansas cities of Allen, Arkansas City, Ashland, Chanute, Coffeyville, Derby, Dodge City, El Dorado, Garden City, Haysville, Hutchinson, Junction City, Kansas City, Leavenworth, Lawrence, Liberal, Ottawa, Parsons, Pittsburg, Salina, Shawnee Mission, Topeka, Ulysses, Valley Center, and Wichita, as well as Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Omaha, Nebraska.

62,994 students served
5,324 case-managed students
75 schools
1,426 partners
$88 annually per student
4,214 volunteers
gave 22,970 hours

Current school year network:
During the 2015-2016 school year, Communities In Schools of Mid-America is providing services in more than 20 communities in Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Iowa.
Funding Sources

- Public: 56.28%
- Foundation: 34.61%
- United Way: 3.83%
- Corporate: 2.39%
- Individual: 1.64%
- Other: 1.24%
Major Contributors
Communities In Schools of Mid-America gratefully acknowledges those whose support during FY 2015 made our work possible. This list reflects major donors to the Mid-America network and may include support to more than one affiliate, as well as in-kind support. This list is limited to contributions of $2,500 or more; however, we also extend our deepest appreciation to the hundreds of donors who support us with critically needed smaller gifts.

$1,000,000+
Communities In Schools, Inc.
State of Kansas - Department for Children and Families

$250,000+
Casey Family Programs
George Kaiser Family Foundation
State of Kansas
The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation
United Way of the Plains
Wichita/Sedgwick County USDs

$100,000+
Office of the State Bank Commissioner of Kansas
United Way of Greater Topeka
USD 501, Topeka, KS
Wichita State University

$50,000+
Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund
$25,000+
City of Wichita
School District 001, Douglas County, NE
Sedgwick County
United Way of Douglas County, KS
USD 250, Pittsburgh, KS

$10,000+
Anonymous
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
City of Ulysses
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Finnup Foundation
Grant County
State of Kansas Securities Commission
United Way of Franklin County, KS
USD 214, Ulysses
Westar Energy
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Douglas County, KS Community Foundation
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