



About Communities In Schools

Who We Are and What We Do

Communities In Schools (CIS) is the largest dropout prevention organization in the United States. For more than 30 years, CIS has remained focused on helping young people stay in school and prepare for life by identifying and addressing the unmet needs of students and families – needs that, when left unanswered, contribute to the dropout rate. Whether it's eyeglasses, tutoring, or just a safe place to be, when these basic needs are met, students can concentrate on what's really important – learning.

Why Communities In Schools?

Dropping out of school spells economic disaster for young people. In today's workplace, only 43 percent of adults who dropped out of high school are employed, compared to 60 percent of adults who completed high school and 76 percent who completed a bachelor's degree. CIS provides a comprehensive solution to the issues that place young people in jeopardy of dropping out. Rather than duplicating services or competing with other youth-serving organizations or agencies, CIS identifies and mobilizes existing community resources and fosters cooperative partnerships for the benefit of students and families. Today, CIS is the national leader on school-based, integrated student services.

Our Philosophy

Communities In Schools believes that caring, one-on-one relationships between adults and young people make the crucial difference. CIS creates comprehensive, locally controlled and owned support systems around schools. In partnership with the local school system, CIS identifies the most critical needs of students and families – needs that are preventing children from succeeding in school, and in life. CIS then locates and coordinates community resources, dedicated volunteers and agencies to serve in partnership with the public schools, both during the day and after school, thereby making the work of our educators much more effective. Thus, *coordination of effort* and *accountability for results* are essential aspects of the service CIS provides. CIS ensures that the work of these outside agencies and volunteers is interconnected and integrated to provide the support schools need the most.