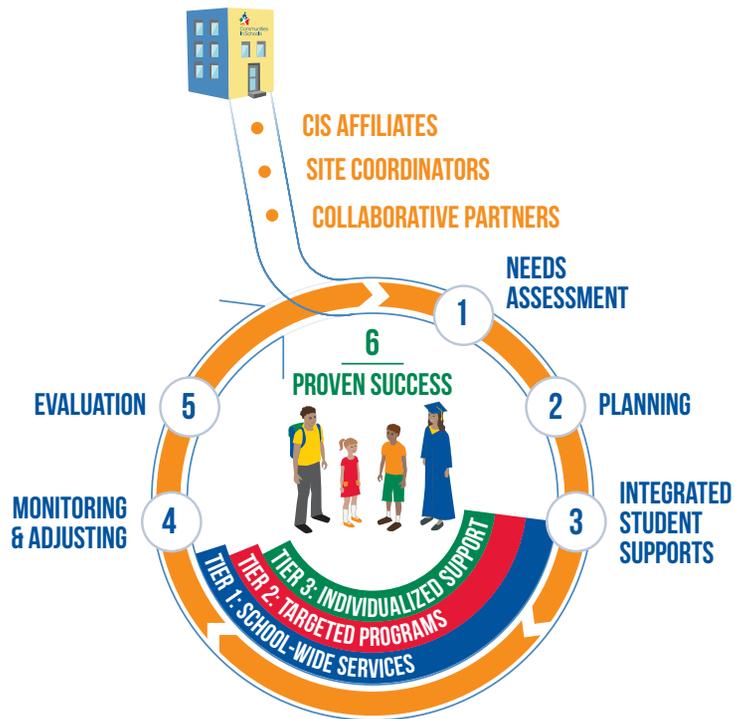


OUR UNIQUE MODEL



Communities
In Schools



• CIS AFFILIATES

Hire and train site coordinators, bring the CIS model to schools in need and mobilize partners to provide resources.

• SITE COORDINATORS

Trained professionals who work with school administrators to assess needs, develop a plan and build a team to provide supports to schools and students.

• COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Schools, businesses and community agencies all work together with site coordinator to deliver supports to students and families.

1 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Analyze multiple sources of data to identify the key needs of the school and individual students.

2 PLANNING

Site coordinators lead their school support team to develop a plan to prioritize supports that address academic and non-academic needs.

3 INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS

Site coordinator and partners deliver tiers of support to the school, students and their families.



4 MONITORING & ADJUSTING

Site coordinator continuously monitors student and school progress and adjusts supports to optimize results.

5 EVALUATION

Continuous assessment of partners and student supports by the CIS affiliate to demonstrate results and improve practice.

6 PROVEN SUCCESS

We increase graduation, reduce dropout, and improve attendance for schools in need.



ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE

Our site coordinators work hard to ensure that students have the resources to progress academically. From providing students with tutors, to finding and creating quiet spaces where students can study, we do whatever it takes to create an optimal learning environment for our students. We also provide a wide range of information and opportunities for college-bound and career-minded students. Many of our kids have a limited frame of reference of what their careers can be, so an important part of our job is making them aware of the possibilities and encouraging them to “dream big”. From there, we help them understand and meet the requirements to ultimately achieve their goals.



BASIC NEEDS

What can seem like small obstacles can easily lead students off track. That’s why ensuring students have access to basic needs is so important. A student cannot focus in the classroom if he or she is hungry, cold or tired, or cannot see the board. From ensuring students get proper nutrition, are sleeping in safe places and have reliable transportation to and from school, to providing resources or referrals to their families when they are in need, there is no request too small for us.



BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS

Many of our students face and overcome difficult obstacles in their lives. However, their survival skills aren’t always effective in the classroom or the work place. Our program teaches students positive ways to cope with anger, conflict resolution and other strategies to keep them focused on school. From one-on-one coaching to guest speakers and role-playing exercises, our hands-on approach helps student recognize patterns of behavior, break the cycle and see tangible improvements.



COLLEGE & CAREER PREP

Both higher education and the modern workplace are evolving rapidly, and with this shift come new opportunities, greater competition, more complex skill sets, and job titles that didn’t exist a few years ago. It’s a lot to process, especially for students already dealing with their own unique challenges. For students pursuing college, we help decipher the application process, explore scholarship opportunities, tour campuses and conduct mock interviews. For those planning to enter the work force, we help students discover enjoyable, sustainable career paths and connect them to internships, job shadowing opportunities and leadership training courses. For those undecided, our site coordinators provide a safe sounding board to articulate goals and fears, and explore options.



COMMUNITY & SERVICE LEARNING

Students served by Communities In Schools not only get the help they need to succeed in the classroom, but they also gain valuable experience in the real world by participating in public service activities. We encourage and provide students with many opportunities to connect more with their local community – from volunteer jobs, mentoring programs and outreach efforts, students can experience for themselves the value they can both bring to, and receive from, community involvement.



ENRICHMENT

After school and summer programs give students experiences that can help prepare them for life after high school. Our site coordinators, executive directors and volunteers work together to find and create programs that combine education with fun, hands-on experiences. These programs are particularly valuable to students whose families don't have access to resources, as after school time and summer breaks are often when students are most distracted and adversely affected by home life. Our programs include field trips, community services programs, athletic leagues, youth conferences, guest speakers and more.



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

We know that greater parental involvement in a student's life promotes greater student success. But parents and guardians often face their own obstacles. Language barriers, busy work schedules, and other family obligations can keep caregivers from getting involved in their child's student life. Communities In Schools see family engagement as a crucial element to our success, and work to remove barriers that prevent caregivers from staying central in their child's education. We've offered parenting classes, sponsored family nights and created parent support groups to help parents stay involved. Our site coordinators check in with families often, and connect them with counselors, social workers and other school and community resources as needed. Most important, we ensure that home is a healthy nurturing environment where students always feel safe.



LIFE SKILLS

Life skills cover a broad range of topics – including personal health and hygiene, job attainment, money management and other essential skills such as how to study, how to manage time, and even how to set and achieve goals. Site coordinators teach students how to work together with others, interact with authority figures and manage anger and other emotions. Mastering life skills helps students engage more effectively with others, resolve issues diplomatically and understand the importance of compromise, patience, and other social values. Our program includes one-on-one training, hands-on role playing and motivational presentations from successful community leaders.



MENTAL HEALTH

Some students face emotional, behavioral and mental health challenges, either directly themselves or in their immediate family. Our site coordinators are trained to help identify and reach out to kids and families who may need support services. We work with our partner schools, as well as community organizations, to provide the best resources and referrals available to our students and families. Our commitment is to treat every child with dignity and respect, and ensure they receive the services and support they need to be their best.



PHYSICAL HEALTH

Despite the advancements in modern medicine, many kids in America continue to face a number of serious, chronic, health-related issues. Asthma, obesity and poor dental health are just a few. Add to this poor nutrition, plus lack of regular exercise, and it becomes clear how physical health can be a barrier to success. Communities In Schools is committed to promoting good nutrition, physical activity, access to health services and a healthy school environment. We offer a variety of after school and summer programs to encourage physical activity, healthy eating and time outdoors. We believe healthy minds and bodies are the vehicles for our students' success.