

To Whom It May Concern:

Communities in Schools of Delaware (CISDE) is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides comprehensive and innovative solutions to the issues that place young people in jeopardy of not succeeding in school and life. CISDE identifies, mobilizes and supplements community resources and fosters cooperative partnerships for the benefit of students and families. Communities in Schools of Delaware is an affiliate of Communities in Schools, a national leader of school-based, **integrated student services** by focusing on cost-efficiency, adaptability and reliability. We have an operational affiliate in Wilmington, serving all of New Castle County and an office serving Kent County and northern Sussex County in Dover.

What better way to leverage future Federal dollars than having a strategy, process and state funding support which would complement these dollars to maximize our resources to cope with the social-emotional, economic and academic challenges facing our lowest income and lowest performing schools.

The CIS Model is CIS' unique approach to providing community based, integrated student services.

Components of the CIS Model include:

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- A trained CIS school-based site coordinator;
- A comprehensive school and student-level needs assessment;
- A community asset assessment and identification of potential partners;
- Annual plans for school-level prevention and individual intervention strategies;
- Prevention services and resources for the whole school (e.g. leadership skills training, personal/social development, life skills courses), coupled with coordinated, targeted and sustained intervention services and resources for the most at-risk students (e.g. tutoring, mentoring, after-school programs, career development);
- Consistent and detailed data collection and evaluation; and
Continual monitoring and adjustment of services offered to individual students and/or the entire school population.

CISDE collaborates with more than 75 community partners to ensure the needs of all Delaware students and families are met. Some of our community partners include school districts, charter schools, the State of Delaware, AT&T, Capital One, Bank of America, Cen Del Foundation, State Farm Insurance, Delmarva Power and Walmart. Service providers like Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Junior Achievement, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, West Side Health, Delaware Food Bank, Nemours among others.

Objectives

Coordinated Parent and Community Engagement

Through broad-based community engagement, identify the assets and the needs within the school and surrounding community to support a holistic approach to school change.

Involve CBO's, parents and broader community in children's health, education, and social-emotional development.

Leverage and secure community resources for the benefit of students and their families (housing, food, transportation, health and employment services)

Integrate community partners into school decision-making, support services and assessment processes.

Develop data-sharing agreements and common metrics among school, state and the CBO partners.

Expanded Learning and Enrichment Activities

Ensure that the expanded learning and enrichment activities are aligned with the vision and goals of the principal, state and school community plan.
Foster social and emotional competencies and physical well-being.
Build skills that support academic achievement.
Provide youth with a safe, supportive environment to explore their interests and life pathways.
Cultivate youth leadership and community involvement.
Engage parents and community members to support above goals.

Mental Health Services

Increase access to mental health services, including substance abuse services, using evidenced based models and practices.
Educate and prepare teachers, students, and parents about mental health issues and practices.
Decrease stigma around mental health in the school community.
Leverage opportunities within school and within community to provide needed services to students and families.

The result of integrating this model: Teachers are free to teach, and students—many in jeopardy of dropping out—finally have the opportunity to focus on learning.



Jim Purcell

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The mission of Communities In Schools is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life

Goodsearch for Communities In Schools - Delaware

Raise money for your favorite charity or school just by searching the Internet at www.Goodsearch.com (powered by Yahoo), shopping online at www.Goodshop.com or dining at a restaurant in the www.Gooddining.com network.