Hello Friends of Communities In Schools,

The past year at Communities In Schools of the Gulf South was a year of change and growth. Over the year we reflected and learned from our past, but also looked to our future. In April, we celebrated one of our founders, Frankie Wittenberg, and hosted a launch party for Communities In Schools of the Gulf South. Over 22 years ago Frankie, Margaret Wall, and Claire Stahel embarked on a dream to support children and families living in poverty in New Orleans and brought Communities In Schools to New Orleans. Since those early years of CIS of Greater New Orleans we have grown from serving one school with one Site Coordinator to serving over 7,000 students during the 2017-2018 school year.

We are now embarking on the next chapter of our organization. I started my journey with CIS six years ago. In July of 2017, I started a new journey as President of CIS of Greater New Orleans, and ended the school year as the President of Communities In Schools of the Gulf South. The Board of Directors and I started the year developing a strategic plan for the future of our organization and our plan reflects the goals of our National organization—to sustain, deepen, and grow.

CIS of the Gulf South currently serves over 7,000 students in the Greater New Orleans area, but over one-third of the population in Louisiana struggle to afford basic needs such as housing, child care, food, health care, and transportation. For students living in poverty, the barriers to attending school range from needing appropriate shoes or uniforms, staying home to take care of a sibling, to lacking mental health services to address trauma.

There is hope and our results are proving that CIS is working! This year hundreds of children received mental health counseling from our staff and AmeriCorps members. Countless families were connected with homeless shelters and were provided basic needs so their children could come to school each day, and be successful. This year we will continue to sustain and deepen our work in the Greater New Orleans area, and also continue to grow— not just in New Orleans, but throughout the state of Louisiana. All of this is possible because of support from friends of CIS of the Gulf South like you.

Sincerely,
Amanda

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CIS delivers Integrated Student Supports (ISS) to over 7,000 at-risk young people in our community who need us most. Our staff are highly-trained mental health professionals who work directly with students and act as a hub in the school to bring together community partners and services to keep all students on the path to graduation and success.

A message from David Perlis
Chairperson

Dear CIS Friends,

This past year at Communities In Schools of the Gulf South was both challenging and rewarding. We celebrated the work we have done over the past two decades as Communities In Schools of Greater New Orleans, welcomed a new President, and had our first Once Upon a Party family-friendly event to increase awareness of our work and gain new supporters. In July, we officially became CIS Gulf South and brought on four new board members as a part of our strategic plan.

We are encouraged by the support of our local community, and CIS has received financial resources from the Entergy Charitable Foundation, the United Way of Southeast Louisiana, and many individuals this past year. However, we also need more people like you to fulfill our mission. I hope you enjoy reviewing all that our students have accomplished with the help of the dedicated CIS staff. Please help spread the word about our work to others like you who share our vision for a community where all students are empowered to succeed.

Thank You,
David

WHERE WE WORK

Our Schools: 2017-2018

Orleans Parish
Brice Acadamy
Cypress Academy
ENCORE Academy
Foundation Preparatory Charter School
JCCA - Algiers
Joseph S. Clark Preparatory High School
Menard Nelson Charter School
Mildred Osborne Charter School
Morris Jeff Community School
Phillis Wheatley Community School
Pierre Capdau Charter School
ReNEW Accelerated High School
ReNEW Early Childhood Center
ReNEW Schaumburg Elementary
Success Preparatory Academy
The NET Charter High School
The NET 2 - Gentilly

Jefferson Parish

JCFA - East
JCFA - West
Jefferson Rise Charter School

Current & Future Sites

Current Service Area

Future Service Areas

Alexandria
Baton Rouge
Lafayette
New Iberia

Communities In Schools (CIS) Gulf South launched on July 1, 2018. Our new name reflects our growth plan. We will continue to serve the Greater New Orleans region and expand to the following parts of Louisiana: Capital Area, Acadiana, and Central Louisiana.
Communities In Schools of the Gulf South provides three (3) tiers of Integrated Student Supports (ISS) to the students we serve.

**Tier 1 services** are provided school-wide and include: after-school programs, family nights, bullying prevention, and job fairs.

**Tier 2 services** are targeted to groups of students and include: weekend food bags, attendance interventions, social skills groups, and mentoring.

**Tier 3 services** are individualized for the students at highest risk for dropping out and include case management services such as mental health services, behavior interventions, crisis response, and family engagement.

**WHAT WE DO**

In 2017-2018 CIS Gulf South staff and volunteers provided over 35,357 individual interventions to 7,106 at-risk public school students and their families. This equals over 24,195 hours of services delivered to the most vulnerable people in our community.

**WHO WE SERVE**

The graduation rate for all New Orleans students is just 72.8%, and 78.0% across Louisiana.

"CIS gives students strategies on how they can better deal with their own behaviors and cuts down on the time that students are away from class because of behaviors."

-Amanda Stephens, 3rd Grade Lead Teacher at Bricolage Academy.

"One of the reasons that I come to school more often now is because I know my Site Coordinator will be looking for me. I know she really cares about me."

-Timothy, 9th Grade Student.
To accomplish our mission CIS addresses the effects of poverty and trauma on children. We do this by placing highly trained Site Coordinators (licensed mental health professionals) directly into schools to implement Integrated Student Supports (ISS).

By design our model is human capital intensive. CIS Gulf South pursues funding from a range of sources to provide ISS full-time, inside schools with CIS Site Coordinators, Behavioral Health Counselors, AmeriCorps members, and volunteers.

CIS services cost approximately $90,000 per mental health professional, per school, per year. Schools believe in the work we do and provide over 50% of our total revenue. The remainder of our funding is provided through grants, businesses, individuals, and special events.

CIS Gulf South is proud to recognize our supporters who have donated $1,000 or more in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

$50,000 - $99,999
- Entergy Charitable Foundation
- United Way of Southeast Louisiana

$25,000 - $49,999
- GPOA Foundation
- Holley Pavy and John M. DeBlois Foundation
- Louisiana Public Facilities Authority
- David Perlis
- Pro Bono Publico Foundation
- H. Britton and Sheila Sanderford

$10,000 - $24,999
- Barriere Construction
- Coughlin-Saunders Foundation
- Mickey and Hilary Landry
- Greater New Orleans Foundation - LGBT Fund

$5,000 - $9,999
- Barriere Construction
- Coughlin-Saunders Foundation
- Mickey and Hilary Landry
- Greater New Orleans Foundation - LGBT Fund

$2,500 - $4,999
- Gary and Martha Solomon
- Harry C. and Claire Stahel
- Zale Family Foundation

$1,000 - $2,499
- Sundance Banks and Claudia Dierkes-Banks
- Errol and Karen Barron Jr.
- Julie Breitmeyer
- Marcia Bridge Cooke
- Chareil Katz
- Andy and Sara Massey
- Mutual of America
- Perlis Clothing
- River Rock Stone Works
- Uniforms by Logo Express
- Dick and Margaret Wall

Communities In Schools of the Gulf South is committed to transparency and our financial information is publicly available on our website and through GuideStar.
2017-2018
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Perlis
Chairperson
Perlis Clothing

Kate Barron
Secretary
Retired Educator

Julie Breitmeyer
Treasurer
Retired CPA

Sheila Sanderford
Community Volunteer

Sally Suthon
Suthon Solutions, Inc.

Charline Gipson
Davillier Law Group, LLC

Geri Brumfield
Retired Educator

Jeanne Foster
Gambit Weekly

Missy Sparks, Ph.D.
Ochsner Health Systems

Dan Wright
U.S. Department of the Interior

Amanda Schroeder, LPC-S
President
Communities In Schools Gulf South

Margaret Wall
Founding Board Member
Board Emeritus

Claire Stahel
Founding Board Member
Board Emeritus

Connect with CIS Gulf South on your favorite social media platform!