



Newsletter | June 2023

From the CEO

Hi all,

I have a lot of mixed emotions writing this letter. I am excited for our seniors who just graduated ([meet a few of them here!](#)); many are first-generation college students, and they all have bright futures ahead. I am sad to be saying goodbye in my official capacity as CEO of this great organization, and proud of all that we have accomplished together in the last four years. I am confident in the amazing and dedicated board and staff, especially to Tarryn Bell, our Chief Operating Officer, who will step in as interim CEO; Tiffany Patton, our Chief Program Officer, and Leah Susi, our Chief Development Officer. They are a dream team and never miss a beat.



Leading CIS over the last four years has been an honor. I've visited dozens of our schools and seen the game-changing support that our site coordinators provide students and families first-hand; each time I'm in a school, I feel the respect, love, and appreciation that students have for them. Our coordinators are true heroes and the embodiment of CIS's "whatever it takes" approach to helping students succeed.

We couldn't do it without them – or you. Thank you for your encouragement along the way, and for your investment in the well-being of thousands of kids across Tennessee. They need our continued support, and CIS-TN is well-positioned to be there for the long term – starting with an expansion into six new Nashville schools this fall.

While I am signing off in my official capacity, I remain committed to doing whatever I can to help CIS-TN continue to grow and succeed and hope you'll join me in that effort. To that end, I look forward to seeing you all at the Breakfast in September, and Bingo & Bourbon in February.

Until then,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



End of the School Year Highlights

It was a busy end of the school year at our partner schools across Tennessee... At our rural high schools, it was an extra-special graduation season as the first group of students that our coordinators got to know as freshmen graduated, many of them now first-generation college-goers. Meet students like Danielle, Derrick, Ethan, and others in our [Senior Spotlights](#).



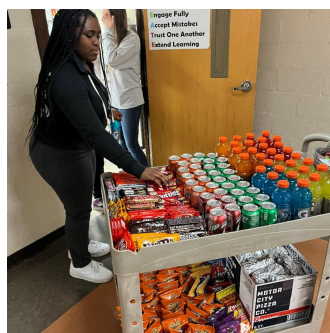
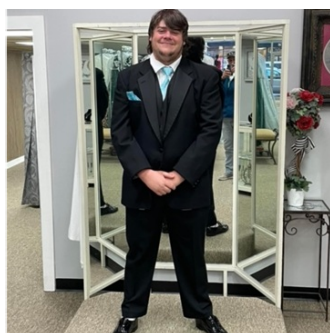
Bellshire Elementary
James Gibson, site coordinator at Bellshire, commemorates the school's 5th grade celebration. Featured here is our case managed student Cam. Read his story [here](#).



Bolivar High
Sherry Hoyle, our site coordinator at Bolivar Central High School (and recent recipient of the All In For Kids Award presented by CIS National!) celebrates graduation with one of her students.



Grundy County High
Students are helping to ensure that all children have at least one basic need, a bed in which to sleep. [Read more.](#)



Hancock County High

Our site coordinator, Lindsey Gibson, partnered with a local store, Trinkets & Treasures Formal Wear, who donated tuxedos for our case-managed senior students to wear to prom.

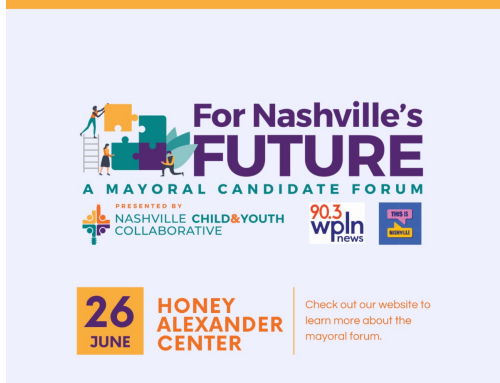
Madison Middle

Each month students are rewarded for perfect attendance by picking out a treat from the 'RAM' cart!

Amqui Elementary

Students with average daily attendance of 95% or above for the 2022-23 school year earned time on the Rolling Video Games Bus!

Upcoming Events



June 26: Mayoral Candidate Forum

June 26, the Collaborative will host a thematically titled, “For Nashville’s Future”, child and youth mayoral forum at Family and Children’s Service - Honey Alexander Center. WPLN will be our media partner and the wonderful host of *This Is Nashville*, Khalil Ekulona, will co-moderate the forum along with members of the Mayor’s Youth Council. We will be working to uncover and amplify more youth voices from across the city prior to and during the event.

Registration for this highly anticipated forum and has already begun. You can check out the [website](#) for

more information and registration details.

July 23: Cheer on the Sounds & Support CIS

A portion of your ticket will go directly back to CIS-TN! The game starts at 6:05pm and kids get to run the bases after the game! Visit this [link](#) to purchase your tickets today.



September 21: 3rd Annual All in For Kids Fundraising Breakfast



Featuring motivational speaker, best-selling author, and former CIS-TN board member Reggie D. Ford.



Coffee & Networking will begin at 7:30am and our program will be

from 8-9am.

**REGISTER
HERE**



**CIS-TN's Annual All in For Kids
Breakfast @ 14 TENN**
1410 51st Ave. N, Nashville, TN
37209
Parking is available on site

How You Can Help



The supports an individual student receives from family, community, and school can make all the difference when vulnerable young people are faced with life's pressures.

With your support, we can help more students navigate their high school years and prepare for a bright future. We hope you'll take a minute to read and share their stories and consider making a gift today.

You can hear more from and about Danielle, Derrick, Ethan and others below in our [Senior Spotlights](#).



Host a Back to School Supply Drive
Partner with our schools by visiting our Amazon [school wish list](#) or reach out to [Michelle](#) to learn more about hosting a supply drive.

**DONATE
NOW**



Communities In Schools of Tennessee | 1207 18th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37212

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