

Communities In Schools®

Tennessee

# 2020-2021

# Annual Report



# Dear Friends,

At Communities In Schools of Tennessee (CIS-TN) we believe in the power of one-on-one relationships when it comes to making a difference in the lives of students and families. Our site coordinators establish trust by intentionally building and strengthening relationships. During a time of great uncertainty, our students and families knew they could count on CIS-TN. Our site coordinators helped households figure out virtual school and technology issues and made sure families had food to eat and a roof over their heads. CIS-TN was there with them and our school partners every step of the way.

The data you'll find in this report is a snapshot of the impact we were able to have in an incredibly tough school year. What it doesn't reflect is the trauma, fatigue and pain of our students, families and schools or of our own team, who were also managing their own families through the pandemic. Our site coordinators and school partners saw firsthand how the pandemic exacerbated the challenges many students and families were already experiencing.

I am beyond humbled and proud of what our team was able to do last school year. And I'm thankful we could help in a time of great need. We believe if all students are going to thrive this year, we must address their unique needs individually, and schools need help with that. We have evaluated the past and set our focus on the future in these areas:

**Monitoring the social and emotional health of students.** Whether a student is struggling to cope with an emotional stressor at home or dealing with complex trauma, CIS-TN provides mental health support and trauma-informed interventions to alleviate emotional and behavioral challenges, enhance coping skills and improve student social and emotional well-being.

**Connecting students and families to basic needs.** Our site coordinators continue to work with churches and other service providers to develop food pantries and clothing closets, deliver groceries to homes, provide school supplies and hygiene products and assist families who need help making utility or rent payments.

**Addressing learning loss and re-engaging students.** CIS-TN helps to ensure no child slips through the cracks. Our site coordinators make daily attendance calls and home visits, when necessary, to help remove or mitigate the root problems that keep students from attending school.

**Thank you** for being on this journey with us,

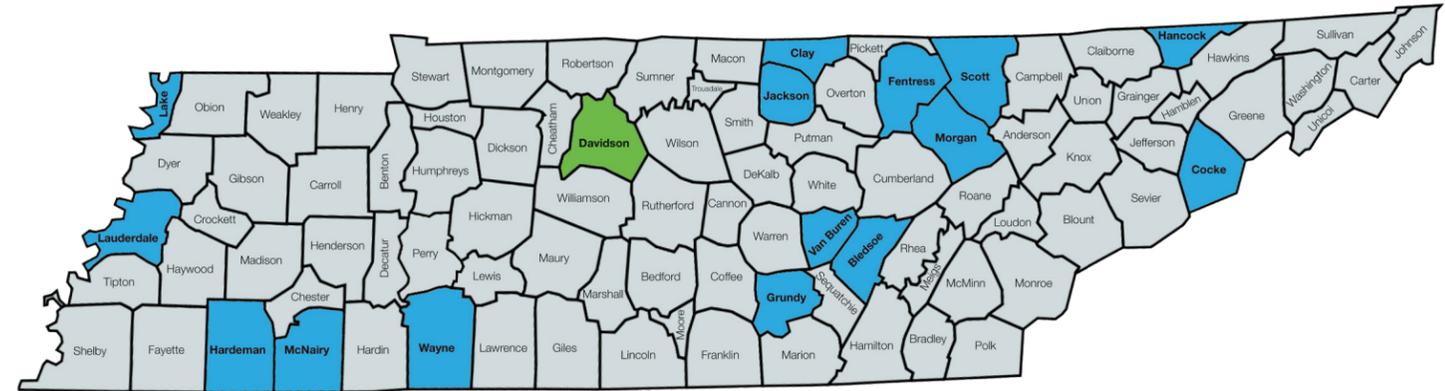


*Sam*

**Samantha Wigand**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Communities In Schools of TN

# Our Reach

In school year 2020-2021, CIS-TN served



## Partner Schools

**Hardeman**  
Bolivar Central High  
Middleton High

**Lake**  
Lake County High

**Lauderdale**  
Halls High  
Ripley High

**McNairy**  
McNairy Central High  
Adamsville Senior High

**Wayne**  
Wayne County High

**Bledsoe**  
Bledsoe County High

**Clay**  
Clay County High

**Fentress**  
Clarkrange High  
Alvin C. York Institute

**Grundy**  
Grundy County High

**Jackson**  
Jackson County High

**Van Buren**  
Van Buren County High

**Davidson**  
Amqui Elementary  
Apollo Middle  
Bellevue Middle  
Bellshire Design Center  
Cumberland Elementary  
Glengarry Elementary  
Goodlettsville Middle  
Ida B. Wells Elementary  
J.T. Moore Middle  
KIPP Academy Nashville  
KIPP Nashville College Prep  
KIPP Nashville Collegiate High  
Paragon Mills Elementary  
Shwab Elementary  
Tom Joy Elementary  
Warner Arts Magnet Elementary  
Whites Creek High

**Cocke**  
Cocke County High  
Cosby High

**Hancock**  
Hancock County High

**Morgan**  
Wartburg Central High  
Coalfield School  
Oakdale School  
Sunbright School

**Scott**  
Scott High

# Our Mission

Is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.



Across the state, **100%** of schools



felt CIS-TN enabled teachers to focus on teaching and students to focus on learning



indicated the importance of having CIS-TN and wanted to continue partnering with us

Based on 2020-21 end of year survey sent to the principals of our partner schools

# Case-managed Students

## Outcomes

Our site coordinators are highly trained professionals who provide case management services to students needing more intensive support. They work one-on-one with these students, their families and their teachers to put together a comprehensive student support plan that identifies hurdles in the student's life and identifies tangible solutions. The outcomes below are based on the percentage of case-managed students statewide that met/made progress towards their individualized goal(s).

**77%**

improved their attendance

**77%**

increased their social & emotional learning skills

**93%**

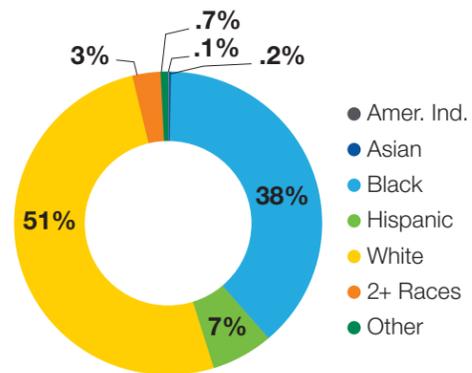
of seniors graduated

**95%**

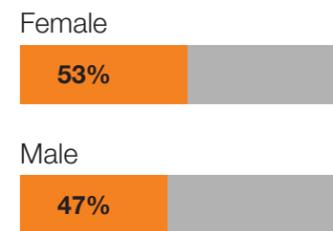
were promoted to the next grade (K-11)

## Demographics

### Race



### Gender



No other genders were reported.

**55%** identified exposure to trauma

**78%** qualified for free or reduced price lunch



# Graduate Spotlight

We are so proud of our seniors who remained resilient during a historically challenging year and achieved their goal of graduating high school. Congratulations to the class of 2021!



**TJ** became chronically absent his senior year after moving to a neighboring county, which made getting to school a challenge. With the help of his site coordinator, TJ realized he wouldn't accomplish the goals he had for himself if he didn't come to school. TJ's site coordinator talked with him and his mom about what his options were. TJ's mom said, with tears in her eyes, that she wanted him to graduate because he would be the first in their family to do so. Together, it was decided the school's virtual academy was his best option, and he worked hard to pass his classes. We are proud to share that TJ successfully made it through as the first person in his family to graduate from high school!



After the sudden death of her father, **Morgan** began to struggle with depression. She experienced mood swings and self-isolation. Despite her grief, Morgan was determined to pursue her dream of becoming a registered nurse. CIS helped Morgan find a therapist, provided a safe space for her to decompress at school and taught her strategies to manage her anger. Morgan worked hard and finished strong her senior year! Today, she is a nursing major at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology.



**Rukiyah** began to struggle with her self-esteem her senior year. Her site coordinator placed her in a small support group called Heads UP. In the group, Rukiyah and her peers learned emotion regulation skills and strategies to improve their self-esteem. Rukiyah worked hard and made significant improvements. Her newfound confidence helped her make it to graduation day. Rukiyah is now a student at Strayer University, and her site coordinator says she is thriving in her studies.



**Connie** became pregnant her senior year and knew she would need help to graduate. She was determined to provide the best life possible for her child. Connie's site coordinator helped her prepare for motherhood by providing maternity clothes and hygiene items, as well as guidance and support. She also ensured Connie stayed on top of her assignments and engaged in virtual learning by staying in contact with her teachers. Connie's hard work paid off and got her to graduation day. Today, she is enrolled at South College and is excited about the bright future she is creating for herself and her baby girl.

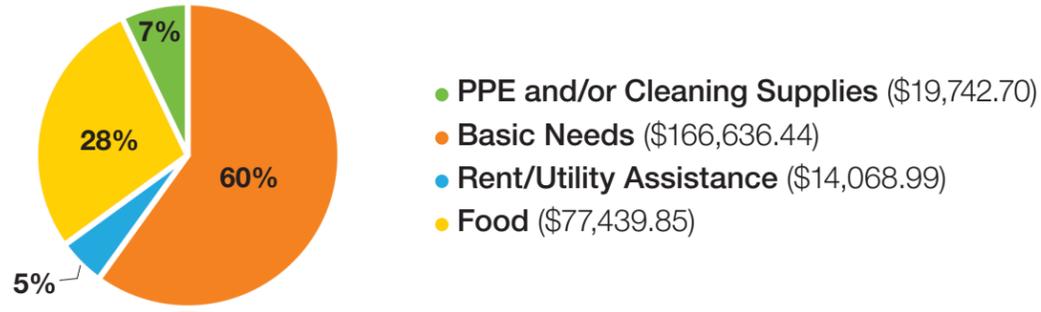
# Student Supports Provided by CIS-TN

Many students and their families have a hard time accessing and navigating the maze of public and private services. There may be ample resources in a community, but rarely is there someone on the ground who is dedicated full-time to connecting these resources with the students and families who need them most. Our site coordinators provide services tailored to meet the unique needs of the school and students they serve. Schoolwide services (also called Tier 1 services) are available to all students in the school. Last year, **236,438 student supports** were provided across the state.

CIS Service	Number of Students Served
Behavioral Interventions	113,941
Family Engagement	43,090
Enrichment/Motivation	32,709
Physical Health	23,064
Academic Assistance	12,065
Other	11,569

# Direct Supports CIS-TN Provided to Families

Our site coordinators, along with our community partners, work hard to address families' needs through a combination of directly providing support and connecting families to existing service providers in their community. Last year, with the support of community partners and in-kind donations, CIS-TN provided direct support valued at **\$277,887.98**.



CIS provides daily assistance to students to eliminate the nonacademic barriers they face – such as truancy, food insecurity and mental health. My fear is that without CIS, these students would not get the full help they need.

- Jason Hardy, Principal at Jackson County High School



For me, [the benefit of CIS is] just seeing how much CIS cares for the kids. Knowing that there are other people willing to go out of their way to help our students always brightens my day. I have seen CIS build relationships with students and challenge them to attend school. I have seen CIS give out coats and other clothing to students. CIS is changing the culture of Cocke County.

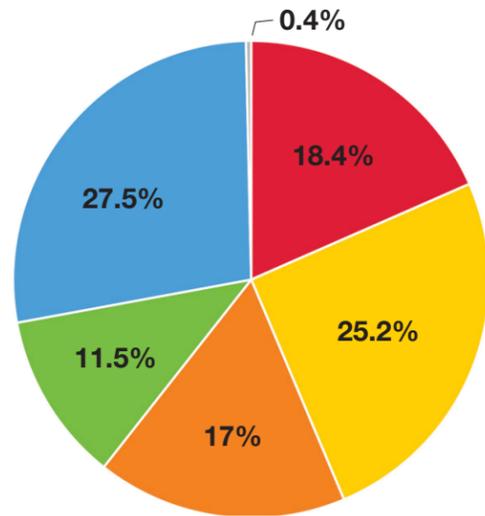
- Jordan Keller, Teacher at Cocke County High School



# Financial Summary

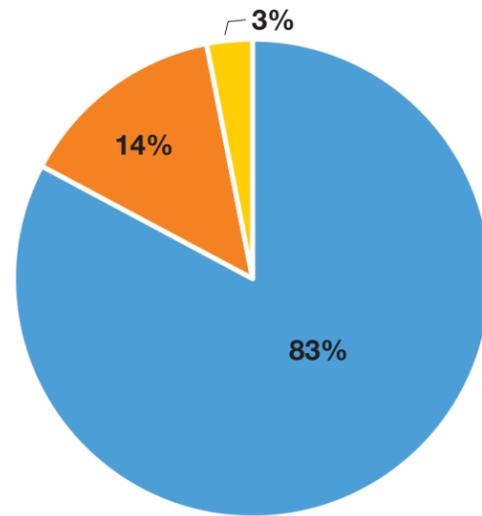
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021\*

**Revenues**  
\$3,126,616



- Interest income
- Government grants
- Other grant income
- Contributions
- Gain on forgiveness of note payable
- Program service fees

**Expenses**  
\$3,515,583



- Program services
- Management & general
- Fundraising

\*In fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, CIS-TN was awarded a \$4.5 M State of TN appropriation grant to be spent over a three year period; that revenue was recognized in 2020 and the annual spending under this grant is reflected each year as decrease in Net Assets. Based on 990 prepared by Thomason Financial Resources.

# Our Donors

## Foundations & Corporations

Special thanks to the following foundations and corporations that gave at \$5,000 and above for their financial support.



## Individuals

Special thanks to the following individuals that gave at \$1,000 and above for their financial support.

- |                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Lindsay & Lee Ballew  | Elinor & Joshua Hedrick         |
| Melinda & John Buntin | Kristen & Rick Martin           |
| Catherine & Mark Cate | Katie McCartney                 |
| Brent Clark           | Brenda & Colin Reed             |
| Judith & Joseph Cook  | Micaela & Sam Reed              |
| Ashley & Joe Cook III | Tara Scarlett & Michael Peacock |
| Andy Gattas           | Samantha Wigand & David Moore   |



## Our Impact

### Helping families get back on their feet

A family had been evicted from their home and was sleeping in their truck in the Walmart parking lot. The father called the school's principal to explain their situation and ask for help. The principal connected him with the school's CIS-TN site coordinator, who was able to secure a room for the family at a local motel. She then worked with a community partner to pay for the remainder of the week's motel stay. The site coordinator also purchased groceries for the family and a gas card so the father could look for housing and a job. Today, the family has found a new home, and the father has found work as a contractor.

### Aggressors, victims, and bystanders: Thinking and acting to prevent violence

A site coordinator started a violence prevention group after a student at her school was fatally shot. Together, the students were able to process the trauma and develop safety plans. These plans helped develop decision-making skills that would increase the possibility of the students not ending up in risky situations like their peers. The group also discussed setting boundaries, saying "no" to peer pressure and taking a moment to think about how their present decisions could impact their long-term goals. A few days later, another situation emerged in which some members of the group were asked to participate in illegal and risky behavior, and they declined!

### A trip to the dentist got Kayla back in school

Kayla missed a month of school because of severe headaches and mouth pain. She had not been to the dentist in several years because her mom couldn't afford to take off work. Kayla's site coordinator found a dentist and took her to an appointment. The dentist discovered she had multiple cavities and felt this was the cause of her mouth pain. The site coordinator helped Kayla with a follow-up appointment to get them filled. Today, Kayla is back in the classroom and no longer has headaches or mouth pain.

**Whatever it takes.**

**However they need us.**

**CIS-TN is in schools to help kids stay in school.**



## Board of Directors

### 2020-2021

**RICK MARTIN** | Chair | Asurion

**\*ASHLEY COOK** | Vice Chair | Community Volunteer

**JOE BASS** | Secretary | Pinnacle Financial Partners

**BRENT CLARK** | Treasurer | HCA Healthcare

**TARA SCARLETT** | Rural Pilot Chair | Scarlett Family Foundation

**\*DEON GAINES** | Chair Emeritus | FutureSelf Network

**LEE BALLEW** | Capital Alignment Partners

**STEPHANIE FLETCHER** | 360 Privacy

**REGGIE FORD** | Rosecrete Wealth Management

**ANDY GATTAS** | Knowledge Tree

**JEFF GREGG** | Lantern Lane Farm

**\*JOHN HAUBENREICH** | Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP

**\*JOSH HEDRICK** | Kraft Analytics, LLC

**SARA MORRISON** | Tennessee State Board of Education

**MICAELA REED** | Hospitality Marketing Consultant

*\* Indicates that the ongoing board member's term ended on June 30, 2021*

### 2021-2022

In addition to the names listed above, the following are members of our 2021-2022 board of directors.

**IAN DINKINS** | MP&F Strategic Communications

**SARA BETH MYERS** | U.S. Department of Justice

**LAUREN SMITH** | L.H. Smith Consulting

**EMILY VAN ALLSBURG** | Creative Artists Agency

**RUSS WIGGINTON** | Civil Rights Museum



1207 18th Ave S. Nashville, TN 37212  
615.727.1341 | [www.CISTN.org](http://www.CISTN.org)

