As I write this, FY2017 is complete, and Communities in Schools of Mid-America is well into the first half of FY2018. As our organization continues on its path of expansion, we ask the same questions we always have: Where is the critical need for our services? Is our work as effective as possible? Who are our partners in these important efforts? Where will we find the resources necessary for growth and sustainability?

And we’re also asking new questions: Do we have a sufficient understanding of our mission? How can we be on the leading edge of nonprofit sector practices and development? What are the best ways for visionary leaders – whether staff or board members – to work successfully for the good of the organization and those we serve? How do we recruit and retain the best-of-class leaders? Do our narratives adequately address our vision and goals? Are there other needed, perhaps better ways to deliver services?

I believe it is vitally important that our curiosity lead us through and beyond questions such as these. Building a vibrant, innovative, change agent organization can’t be done without freedom to consider, explore, experiment, and create. When we fail, we will fail forward. When we succeed, we will succeed forward. And always, we will work to maximize the potential of every child and teen with whom we have the privilege of working, helping to build collective prosperity for our communities.

“THE ONLY LIMIT OF YOUR IMPACT IS YOUR IMAGINATION AND COMMITMENT.”

-TONY ROBBINS
Communities In Schools released the results of an economic impact study conducted by EMSI, one of the nation’s leading economic modeling firms. The purpose of the study was to quantify the return on investment of Communities In Schools’ 113 high school-serving areas in its network to taxpayers, businesses, and students. Among the 2012 findings:

- The average annual rate of return to society is 18.4%.
- The benefit/cost ratio is 11.6, which means that every dollar invested in Communities In Schools creates $11.60 of economic benefit for the community.
- High school graduates will be net contributors to their communities for an average of 44 years of their working life, using their increased income to purchase homes and cars, and paying taxes that will support the police officers, firefighters and teachers.

Communities In Schools gained significant proof that what we do works. Over five years, ICF International conducted an evaluation of our work with students and schools across the country. Multi-level, multi-method, multi-phase, gold-standard research, the study was the largest and most comprehensive evaluation of dropout prevention programs ever completed. Among the 2011 outcomes are:

- Communities In Schools is one of very few organizations proven to keep students in school.
- It is the only one proven to increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates.
- More Communities In Schools students reach proficiency in 4th and 8th grade reading and math.

Read more about the economic impact study and the evaluation on our website, cismidamerica.org.
Our Student Achievement Among Case-Managed Students

- Stayed in School: 99%
- Improved Attendance: 81%
- Improved Academics: 78%
- Promoted: 94%
- Improved Behavior: 83%
- Seniors Graduated: 93%

Funding Sources

- Public: 49.36%
- Foundation: 39.49%
- Corporate: 4.36%
- United Way: 3.08%
- Other: 2.43%
- Individual: 1.28%
We provided services during FY2017 in the communities of:

Kansas – El Dorado, Hutchinson, Junction City, Salina, North Lyon County, Topeka, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Shawnee Mission, Kansas City, Ashland, Dodge City, Garden City, Liberal, Parsons, Pittsburg, Coffeyville, Chanute and Ottawa

Omaha, NE, Waterloo, IA and Tulsa, OK

**Our Network**

**2017-2018 School Year**

**Central Kansas**
- Logan Avenue Elementary, Emporia
- Walnut Elementary, Emporia
- El Dorado Middle School
- Lakewood Middle School, Salina
- Salina Central High School

**Northeast Kansas**
- Highland Park High School, Topeka
- Kennedy Elementary, Lawrence
- Ross Elementary, Topeka
- Scott Dual Lang Magnet Elementary, Topeka
- Jardine Elementary, Topeka
- Shawnee Mission West High School
- Topeka High School
- Topeka West High School
- Wyandotte High School, Kansas City

**Southwest Kansas**
- Dodge City High School
- Garden City High School
- Liberal High School

**Southeast Kansas**
- Chanute Elementary
- Chanute High School
- Lakeside Elementary, Pittsburg
- Nettels Elementary, Pittsburg
- Westside Elementary, Pittsburg
- Meadowlark Elementary, Pittsburg
- Parsons High School
- Pittsburg High School
- Pittsburg Middle School

**KC Metro**
- Banneker Elementary
- Kansas City Neighborhood Academy
- Melcher Elementary
- Frontier School of Innovation
- Crossroads Academy
- Central Middle School
- Northeast Middle School
- Alta Vista High School
- Central Academy
- East High School
- Northeast High School

**Ottawa**
- Ottawa High School
- Ottawa Middle School

**Omaha**
- Omaha North High School

**Iowa**
- George Washington Carver Academy
- Middle School, Waterloo
- Central Middle School, Waterloo

**Tulsa**
- Daniel Webster Middle School
- Daniel Webster High School
- Eugene Field Elementary
- Kendall-Whittier Elementary
- Sequoyah Elementary
- Will Rogers High School
- Will Rogers Junior High
MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

Communities In Schools of Mid-America gratefully acknowledges those whose support during FY2017 made our work possible. This list reflects major donors to the Mid-America network and may include support to more than one area, as well as in-kind support. This list is limited to contributions of $2,500 or more; however, we also extend our deepest appreciation to the hundreds of donors who support us with critically needed smaller gifts.

$1,000,000+
State of Kansas - Department for Children and Families

$250,000+
Casey Family Programs, Tulsa, OK
Foundation for Tulsa Schools, Tulsa, OK
George Kaiser Family Foundation, Tulsa, OK
SchoolSmart KC, Kansas City, MO
The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Tulsa, OK
Tulsa Public Schools, Tulsa, OK
Unified School District 501, Topeka, KS

$100,000+
Anonymous Foundation
Kaufman Foundation, Kansas City, MO

$50,000+
Corporation for National & Community Service - AmeriCorps VISTA, KS
State of Kansas
Unified School District 290, Ottawa, KS

$25,000+
Cloud L. Cray Foundation, Kansas City, KS
Communities In Schools National Growing Together, Tulsa, OK
School District 001, Waterloo, NE
Unified Way of Douglas County, Lawrence, KS

$10,000+
American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation, Kansas City, KS
Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, KS
City of Parsons, KS
Deluxe Corporation Foundation, KS
Earl Bane Foundation, Salina, KS
Finney Foundation Trust, Garden City, KS
Hutchinson Community Foundation, Hutchinson, KS
Kansas Volunteer Commission
Panera Bread, Manhattan, KS
Unified School District 230, Pittsburg, KS

$10,000+
Unified School District 457, Garden City, KS
Unified School District 490, Lawrence, KS
Unified School District 503, Parsons, KS
United Way of Dodge City, KS
United Way of El Dorado, KS
United Way of the Flint Hills, Emporia, KS
United Way of Franklin County, Ottawa, KS
United Way of Greater Topeka, KS
United Way of the Midlands, Omaha, NE
Westar Energy Foundation, KS

$5,000+
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$2,500+
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Topeka Community Foundation, Topeka, KS
Trinity United Methodist Church, Hutchinson, KS
United Way of Reno County, Hutchinson, KS
United Way of Southwest Missouri & Southeast Kansas, Parsons, KS

We celebrated a very special event this year – the 10 year work anniversary of our wonderful CEO/President, Malissa Martin! Since Malissa joined CIS of Mid-America the organization has experienced remarkable growth. This means that we are serving more students, utilizing a highly cost-effective model, and obtaining outstanding outcomes that are measurable and research based! The CIS of Mid-America board is extremely grateful for the visionary leadership of Malissa and her dynamic staff.

It has been exciting to see CIS of Mid-America expand into eleven school districts in Kansas City, Missouri school district and every school in the Pittsburg, Kansas school district! Our dedicated staff and board work hard to provide the best governance and service to the students we serve. We are IN schools to empower students to stay IN school and succeed in life.

This past year our board welcomed five new board members who were recruited strategically, based on our gap analysis. Our board and staff are expanding our adaptive problem-solving skills through a series of coaching opportunities. Included in our new committee structure is a very innovative committee called the Network Services Committee. Its members (which include board members, staff members and peer organization members) will discuss information from around our multi-state area and serve the board as programmatic thought leaders.

This Annual Report provides a wealth of information about our organization. It is amazing to think about how far we’ve come. We are making a quantifiable difference in the lives of the most at-risk students. CIS is changing the cycle of poverty and helping these students succeed in life. Please consider offering your help. You will find many options on our website, www.cismidamerica.org.

Our most vulnerable students need CIS and CIS needs you!
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