



**Communities
In Schools**

Greenbrier County



Winter 2017
Volume 1, Issue 1

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

I want to start off by thanking all of you; volunteers, board of directors, donors, mentors, Greenbrier County Board of Education, and everyone who supports and believes in our mission to empower students to stay in school and achieve in life. As you know, we are a non-profit organization located right here in Greenbrier County, where we currently provide free services to students in eight of the thirteen schools throughout the county.

2017 has been a busy but wonderful year! As we are wrapping up the end of the first semester of this current school year, we have seen a dramatic increase in the need for our services to not only the schools that we are currently serving, but other schools throughout the county, as well. Our extended goal is to be in every school in the county by the end of the next school year. I hope, with the dedication and hard work shown to me by our site coordinators, the need for our services that is growing every day, and the community's support, we will reach this goal as planned.

I hope this newsletter finds you in the last stretch of enjoying the holidays. Please keep in mind that, while many of you that are reading this are settling into a nice, warm home, there are so many families right here in our area that are struggling to make ends meet every day, and especially during the holidays. Not only does Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County (CISGC) provide services free of charge to at-risk youth throughout the county school system, we also bring other services from the communities into the schools on a daily basis. We partner with so many different wonderful agencies in Greenbrier County to ensure that all students are provided with the same opportunities. I hope that you will take a few minutes to look through the next few pages of this newsletter, and get to know our staff, our priorities, and what we do here at CISGC.

Happy Holidays,

Amber D. McHale, MSED.



INSIDE ISSUES

After School
School upda
Support Ho
Meet Our S
NIP Credits
Meet Our B
CIS State P
CISGC Stat
Mentoring
Contact Inf

In October, CISGC hired two part Eastern and Western Middle Scho focuses on helping students who m failure. The program has been a lo who have participated, as well as involvement. Any student is encour offered Monday through Thursday opportunities, homework help as v as well as physical activities such to do and see, are waiting! If you please contact Tiffani Walton (EG today!

“I would not have graduated this year if CIS hadn’t cared about me and helped me.”

UPDATES ON SOME OF OUR SERVICE SCHOOLS SO FAR THIS YEAR....

All school year long, CISGC’s site coordinators provide one-on-one case management services, group programs, manage tutoring and mentoring services throughout the day, help with academic assistance (see graph on page 3 on total support hours) and so many other important services for our at-risk youth. Below is a run down of just some of the many wonderful things our site coordinators do on a daily basis for Greenbrier County’s at-risk students in their own words:

EGMS: Breakfast with a Buddy held in November had a great turnout with over 170 attendees. Christmas 4A Knight (served over 70 students and siblings) and Knight Bites ,which is a snack bag program for students to take home some snacks for the weekend, are both held and supported by CISGC. We also have helped with ‘Mindset For Success’ with Katie Ickes for the 1st nine weeks and also helped with the school’s Hunger Games Math and Literacy Night though NNPS that was held after school in October. Also, Student of the Month along with the bulletin board, is partnered by CISGC.

CRICHTON- CISGC does snack and packs every week to send home with the kids to have healthy snacks on the weekend.

RAINELLE- Every month CISGC recognizes students with perfect attendance for the month on a bulletin board and they receive a free bag of popcorn.

The CIS Program at Greenbrier East is proud to report that at the end of the first grading period, 33% of the students on our caseload made the Spartan Honor Roll (GPA at or above 3.0)! Further, we helped 32 of 37 students make positive progress towards their academic goals, 5 of 5 made progress towards behavior-related goals, and 4 of 6 make progress on attendance-related goals. Additionally, the CIS Club was happy to raise money to buy two children from the Children's Home Society, gifts and clothing as a part of the school's Adopt-a-Child Program.

CISGC Staff

Amber McHale- Executive Director amchale@cisgc.org

Emily Landseidel- Site Coordinator, GEHS elandseidel@cisgc.org

Janelle Vanfosson- Site Coordinator- EGMS jvanfossen@cisgc.org

Dana Hunter- Site Coordinator dhunter@cisgc.org

Crichton and Rainelle Elementary Schools

Kelli Martin- Site Coordinator- kmartin@cisgc.org

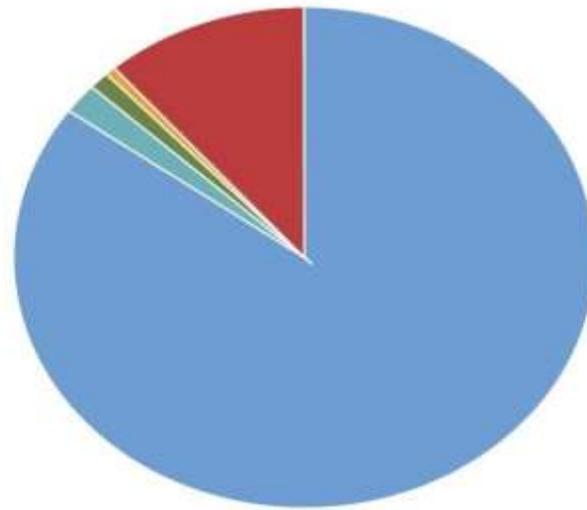
WSS, Ronceverte and Alderson Elementary
Schools

Tiffani Walton- After School Coordinator- EGMS twalton@cisgc.org

Becky Dunbar- After School Coordinator- WGMS rdunbar@cisgc.org

Marcus Berry- part-time Site Coordinator GEHS *newest hire! Info will
be available soon!

Total Support Hours by Category



BREAKDOWN OF SUPPORT HOURS BY OUR SITE COORDINATORS

The data that is provided in the pie chart is an indicator of how much our site coordinators dedicate towards academic assistance since the beginning of the 2017-218 school year; almost 84% of their time is spent on this one support for our at-risk students. While this is immensely important, other areas such as life and social skills are stressed (11.6%), as well as other areas of support that help to make a well-rounded and adjusted student. College and Career Preparation is another area our high school site coordinators will begin focusing more on as we recently hired a support part-time site coordinator at Greenbrier East. As the year progresses, we here at Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County hope to not only continue our motto of “empowering a student to stay in school and achieve in life” but go above and beyond to help develop a student who graduates from high school to become a productive citizen.

CISGC HAS NIP CREDITS STILL AVAILABLE

CISGC Board of Directors:

Jason Long
Renea Ream
Adam Criddle
Daniel Ream
Janice Cooley
Jackie Joe Robinson
Kay Smith
Patti Burdette
Janette Painter
Sara Irons
Ann Fort

The West Virginia Neighborhood Investment Program Act (WV Code §11-13J) provides credit to individuals and private sector businesses which make eligible contributions to community based nonprofit organizations that establish projects to assist neighborhoods and local communities. These projects provide services such as health care, counseling, emergency assistance, crime prevention, education, housing, job training and physical and environmental improvements.

This program was established by the West Virginia Legislature to encourage charitable giving to local nonprofit organizations. By donating to approved NIP organizations, contributors can support their communities and earn credits to reduce certain West Virginia taxes.

Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County (CISGC) is pleased to announce they have received \$5000 in NIP credits this year. CISGC was established in 2006, and is the only program of its kind in West Virginia. Currently, the organization services eight of the thirteen schools in Greenbrier County, offering free services to at-risk students, helping bridge the gap between chronic absenteeism, low self-esteem, academic failure to drop outs by empowering students to succeed in school and in life.

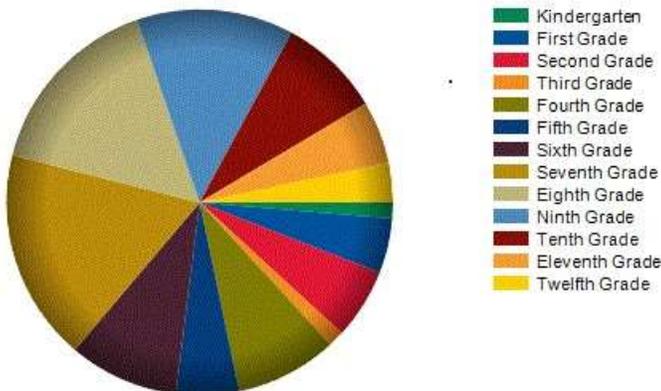
If you are interested in using Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County's NIP credits, please contact Director, Amber McHale at (304)661-1018 or email her at amchale@cisgc.org.

Our board is comprised of several active committees:

- *Executive Committee
- *Finance Committee
- *Governance Committee
- *Programming Committee
- *Resource Development Committee



Students by Grade Level



As the above graph indicates, CISGC helps students at every grade level in Greenbrier County. The importance of our program and services being at every school is immense. With your help, we can achieve this goal so that no child falls through the cracks, every student that needs academic assistance receives it to graduate on time, and after school programs flourish, among so many other immeasurable

services we offer at such a crucial time in a child's life. More than ever, we need your help to make this happen! Please consider donating to Communities in Schools, where every penny goes towards programs that are needed at our service schools for children who need the extra help to succeed.

“CIS helped me find services that I needed to take care of myself”

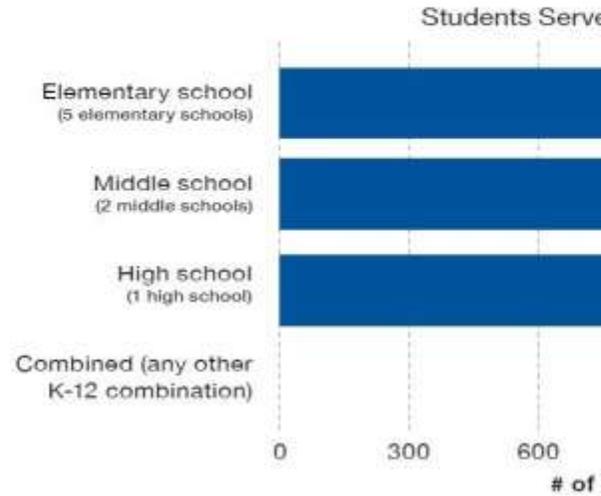
West Virginia

State Data Profile

Our Reach:



★ Affiliate Office



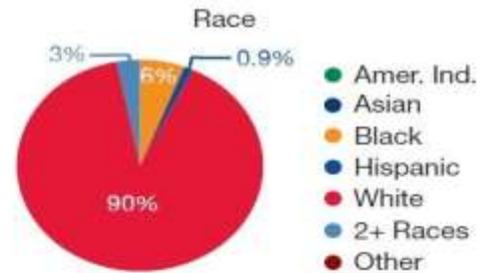
Our Students:

3,508 total students served

3,052 students receiving whole-school supports

456 students receiving case-managed supports

90% case-managed students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch (FRPL)



Our Results:*

*case-managed student outcomes



67%

improved attendance



80%

improved academics



92%

promoted (K-11)

BREAKDOWN OF 2016-2017 SY

Number of paid Staff in the Schools	7
Number of paid staff outside schools	1
Number of CISGC School Sites	8
Number of CISGC Volunteers (mentoring & events)	131
Number of CISGC Volunteer Hours	1470
Number of CISGC case-managed students (Level 2)	322
Number of students participating in CISGC Programs (Level 1)	2,465

MENTORS NEEDED AT EVERY SCHOOL

Mentoring, at its core, guarantees young people that there is someone who cares about them, assures them they are not alone in dealing with day-to-day challenges, and makes them feel like they matter; which is huge for most kids. Research confirms that quality mentoring relationships have powerful positive effects on young people in a variety of personal, academic, and professional situations. Ultimately, mentoring connects a young person to personal growth and development, and social and economic opportunities. Yet, one in three young people will grow up without this critical asset. Communities in Schools strives hard to change that statistic, and we need your help! Although we have over 30 mentors that show up at our service schools at least one hour a week, we still need more! If you are interested in mentoring a student, please contact me today. I will connect you with a student who needs you, your guidance, your time. Call me at (304)6611018 or email me at: amchale@cisgc.org

You are subject to a background check, which Communities in Schools pays for, so what do you have to lose? Absolutely nothing, but so much to gain.

FIVE BASICS FOR CISGC

Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County focus on the five basic fundamentals to provide:

- 1.) A one-on-one relationship with a caring adult
- 2.) A safe place to learn and grow
- 3.) A healthy start and a healthy future
- 4.) A marketable skill to use upon graduation
- 5.) A chance to give back to peers and the community.

CISGC

PO Box 1188
Lewisburg, WV
24901

Office: 304-661-1018
Contact: Amber McHale,
Director
amchale@cisgc.org
www.cisgreenbriercounty.org



Visit us on Facebook!

