

Annual Report 2018-2019

**New Mexico** 



88%

CIS students completed high school

**99%** 

CIS students stayed in school

**78%** 

CIS students met or progressed toward their goals

For too many children, challenges OUTSIDE the classroom - like hunger, poverty, or trauma at home or in their community - can stand in the way of success INSIDE the classroom.

Communities In Schools of New Mexico (CIS) works full-time inside PreK-12 schools to connect Santa Fe's most vulnerable youth with caring adults and community resources designed to help them succeed.

"The result of this wonderful program is that teachers can focus on teaching, knowing that children's most critical needs are being met by CIS."

**Teacher, Salazar Elementary School** 

Since 2012, Communities In Schools of New Mexico (CIS) has been supporting children, youth and families impacted by poverty and trauma by building a robust, local community school organization that emphasizes the whole child, whole family and whole community.

This past year, our strong partnership with the Santa Fe Public Schools enabled us to expand to three additional Title 1 schools, making CIS services available to half of the Santa Fe public school population and their families. Beyond this local expansion, we will also bring our work to the Española School District where school leadership and the community have embraced CIS's model. Sadly, expansion means the need for CIS's work remains in high demand. Over the past year, we've noted alarming increases in suicide ideation, homelessness, hunger and trauma among our students. Thankfully, we were able to directly and immediately address these challenges, ensuring students are safe, and the right supports are in place to keep them on a positive path.



Left: Julia Bergen, Executive Director Above: CIS Site Coordinators

At the heart of CIS's work are our school-based Site Coordinators - full-time and professionally trained adult mentors and advocates who build trusting relationships with students and their families. In our annual survey of all school staff, 92% of respondents stated that CIS effectively addresses students' critical needs and 89% rated CIS as positively impacting students' behavior and social-emotional well-being.

Our work with community leaders to compel the NM Legislature to support community school initiatives led to the funding of the Community Schools Act. This represents a small but critical step in addressing the historic inequity and lack of access to educational opportunities that have plagued New Mexico.

CIS's ultimate goal is to no longer be needed – for every child to be safe, to be physically and emotionally healthy, to be ready for school every day and eventually be prepared to become thriving adults. Until that time, CIS is here; focused on fostering a community

of support that transforms lives every day.

Thank you. Sincerely

Julia Bergen

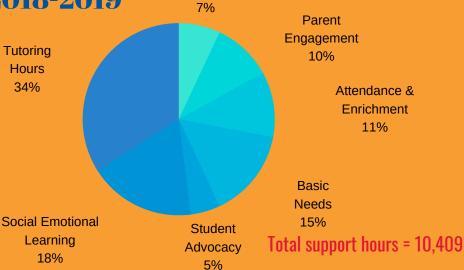
Executive Director

- ★ Supporting 6,400 students
  (47% youth in Santa Fe Public Schools)
- ★ Inside 11 Santa Fe Public Schools (three more this year!)
- ★ Case Managed 450 students

## **Direct Support Hours 2018-2019**

"If it wasn't for CIS, more students in need would fall through the cracks."

Teacher, Capital High School



Other

# "Ivan helped my family through my darkest time."

Jonathan, a senior at Capital High, had a tumultuous year. His parents divorced and he stayed with his mother until they were evicted for the second time. Homeless and without any resources, Jonathan reached out to Ivan Cornejo, one of CIS's site coordinators at Capital High School for help.



Ivan stepped in and identified a place for them to stay for a few nights, and organized for the family to receive bi-weekly groceries. While they waited for approval for a new apartment, Jonathan stayed with his father and his mother lived in their car. Jonathan worked six days a week to help with expenses and his attendance started to suffer. In spite of all this stress, Jonathan remained determined to complete his academic requirements to graduate.

"Ivan helped my family through my darkest time. His support allowed me to stay in school." During these challenging months, Ivan advocated for Jonathan scheduling weekly meetings with his teachers to determine strategies to keep him on a path to graduation. Jonathan attended CIS tutoring sessions, and committed to taking evening classes to ensure he would complete all of his courses on time.

"When Jonathan came to me," commented Ivan, "I could see his determination and resiliency. He needed an adult to believe in him - I became his mentor."

Not only did Jonathan graduate, but his academic success allowed him to consider college. This fall, Jonathan is attending Santa Fe Community College so he can have a career to help his family. Communities In Schools was honored to recognize Jonathan as the first recipient of The CIS Founders' Award.

#### Communities In Schools provides a college-bound scholarship and honorary award for our students!

**The Future Forward New Mexico Scholarship:** Generously sponsored by David Bulfer and Kelly Pope, this scholarship is awarded to a young person who has been an outstanding member of Capital High and Communities In Schools, has shown resiliency, and who continues to realize their dreams through higher education.

**The CIS Founders' Award:** In honor of the contribution Georgia and Bill Carson have made to the education and well-being of students, this award recognizes a student who has exhibited extraordinary perseverance and determination.

### In Santa Fe, there are many more students like Jonathan:

District data reports 1,107 students are homeless in Santa Fe.



CIS Emergency Funds protected 53 families from eviction or utility shut-off.

The high school graduation rate in Santa Fe is 73%.



88% CIS students completed high school; 77% continued on to college or the military.

1 in 4 children in New Mexico are hungry.



CIS provided more than 1,500 families with weekly food distribution.

The work of Communities In Schools of New Mexico is made possible by the generosity of ALL our donors.

Thank you to the following foundations and corporations for their support in 2018-2019.

(Listed are gifts of \$500 or more, made July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)

### Thank You!

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Anchorum St. Vincent

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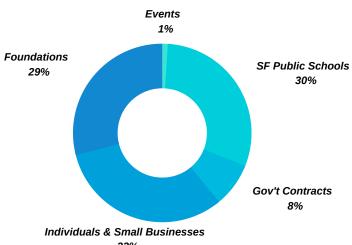


Site Coordinator, Stephanie Walther with CIS student

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Financial Snapshot



Fundraising 8%
Outreach 6%

Program 79%

Revenue: \$1,494,950

**Expenses: \$1,442,118**