



Communities
In Schools®

San Antonio

2020 ANNUAL
REPORT

September 2019 – August 2020

Going Beyond
School Walls



Reflecting on a Unique School Year

Communities In Schools of San Antonio surrounds students with a community of support, including teachers and school staff, community and corporate partnerships, and volunteers, so that they feel empowered to define their own success. COVID-19 affected our community and our students in a number of ways, and while our support for students remained the same, we adapted our means of reaching out and providing for them. The school year looked different, but our team continued to go beyond school walls to make an impact.

Our Impact



42,235

students received CIS-SA support through school-wide initiatives

13,037

participants benefited from CIS-SA services

10,679 students received case-management with a total of 134,082 direct service hours

2,358 students, teachers, or community members received CIS-SA services

99% stayed in school

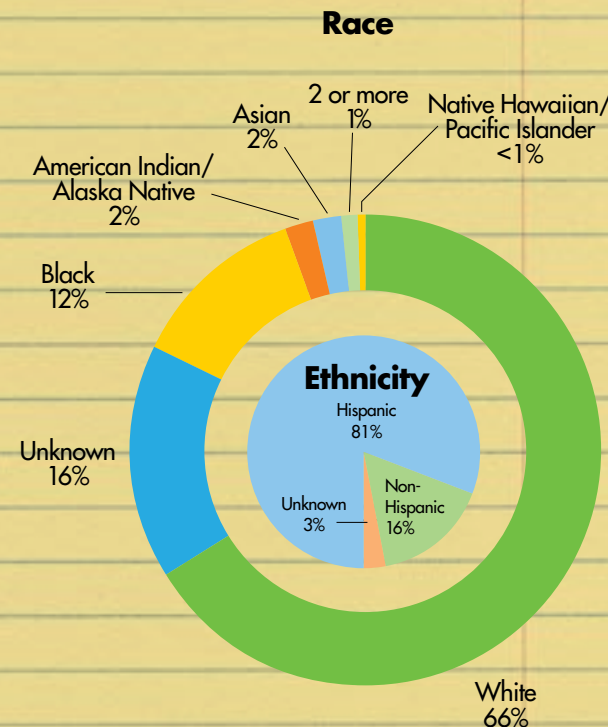
87% improved in academics, behavior, and/or attendance

98% were promoted to the next grade

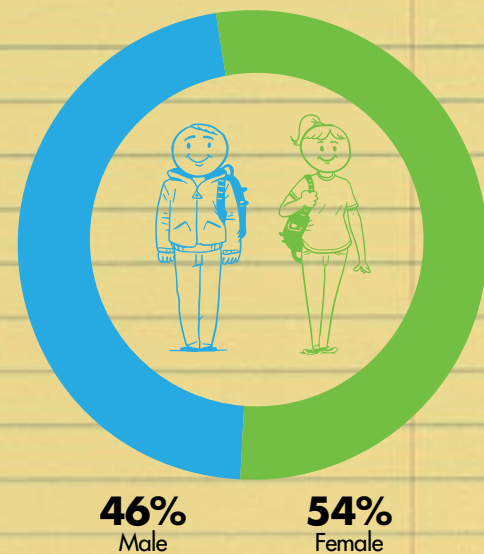
94% of eligible students graduated

*Percentages reflect the results of our 10,679 case-managed students.

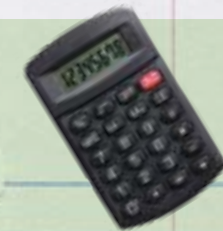
Who We Serve



Gender

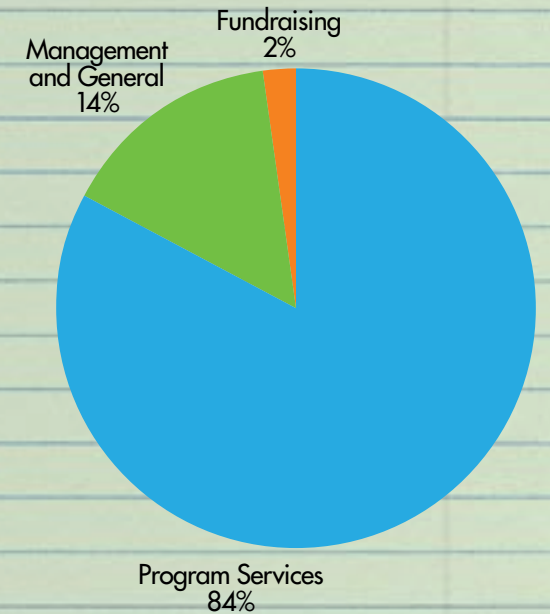
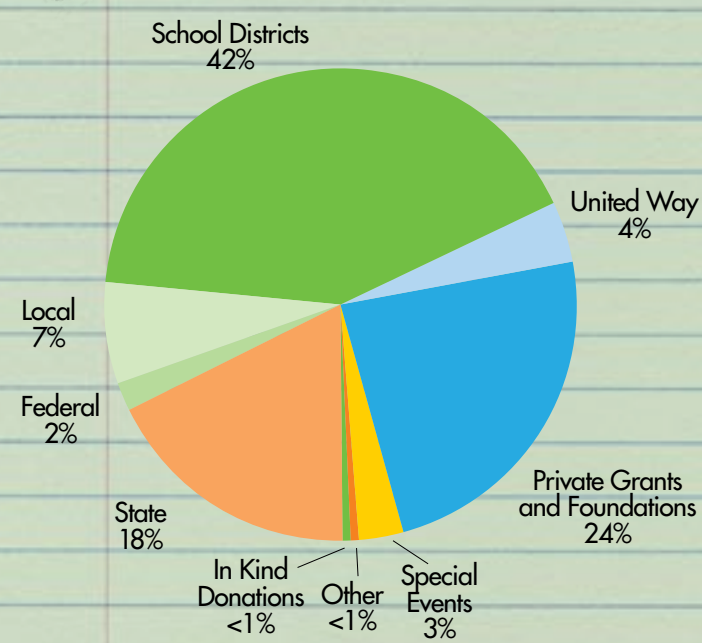


Our Finances



Revenues
\$13,155,950

Expenses
\$12,008,422



Our Partnerships



We couldn't do the work we do in schools without the help of our partners and volunteers.



37

AmeriCorps Members worked alongside our Site Coordinators to provide additional guidance to students in **25 schools**.



300

students were supported by the **Friends of CIS-SA** with emergency funds, through enrichment activities, and in their advocacy work for CIS-SA in the community.

302

Inspire U volunteers from 13 businesses around San Antonio created one-on-one relationships with our high school students through our mentorship program.

2,296

participants were trained in our School Box Trainings strengthening the community of support surrounding our students within school walls and beyond.

2,502

volunteers and **240** community partners supported CIS-SA

How We Serve

Our work is based around six key services to our students. Our Site Coordinators utilize their background in social work and counseling to assess where our students need support and find ways to provide for them. Whether they need clothes or food to take home over the weekend, additional tutoring, support with college essays or finding a career training program, or they need someone to mentor them one-on-one, our Site Coordinators find a way to help each student succeed.

Our Six Key Services



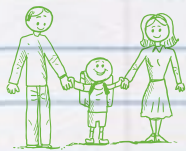
Supportive Guidance



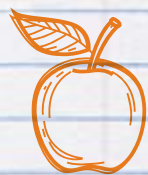
Academic Assistance



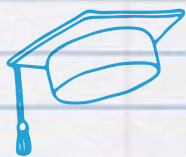
Enrichment Activities



Family Engagement



Basic Needs



College and Career Awareness



Student Success!



Supportive Guidance for Our Students

The core of our work is eliminating obstacles so that students can stay focused in the classroom. Our Site Coordinator, Patricia, worked with an elementary school student to do just this. Adlyn was struggling with “worrying thoughts” when she returned to campus for in-person classes, so Patricia invited Adlyn to talk. “This was a safe place for her to leave her worries, then she could go back to class and focus,” Patricia said. Adlyn began taking “breaks” with Patricia during the school day to work on self-regulation and coping skills, and one day Adlyn did not need a break. She had been overwhelmed and remembered the skills they had worked on together to get through it. “These are the little battles we hope to win when working with our students,” Patricia said.



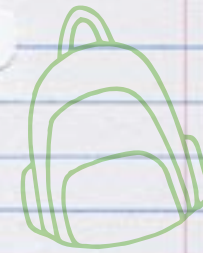
Where We Serve

In the 2019-2020 school year, we served in over 100 schools across 12 districts in San Antonio.

- East Central ISD
- Judson ISD
- San Antonio ISD
- Edgewood ISD
- North East ISD
- Somerset ISD
- Harlandale ISD
- Northside ISD
- South San ISD
- IDEA Charter
- Pearsall ISD
- Southwest ISD

Going Beyond School Walls

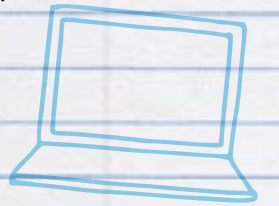
While our Site Coordinators traditionally work in over 100 K-12 schools across 12 school districts, we have the opportunity to work with students outside of school.



See some of the ways we served

2,358

students, teachers, and community members beyond school walls.




1,104

students served by our team through ACE programming

Extending After School Learning

Our ACE/21st Century program offers extended-learning opportunities for students before and after school in Harlandale ISD. Offered year-round, the ACE program team connects with community providers to enhance our students’ school days with academic and kid-friendly activities like STEM, art classes, and tutoring.





Supporting the College Transition

In partnership with Alamo Colleges District, our CIS-SA Site Coordinator at Palo Alto College works primarily with first-generation college students who may have difficulty transitioning from high school to a college campus or those who were previously enrolled in CIS at their high school. They also assist students that transfer to universities so they can continue their success.

79


Palo Alto College students received CIS-SA support

365

students that lived at Haven for Hope received CIS services.

Connecting Homeless Students to Local Schools

Our CIS-SA Education Coordinator at Haven for Hope bridges the gap between families living at Haven for Hope and local schools. Our CIS services offer some stability in the classroom so students can still focus on their education during this transition.



More Ways CIS-SA Is Going Beyond School Walls

36

students in 5 specialty courts received support and access to community resources from our Juvenile Specialty Courts Coordinator (JSSC).

Uniting Systems for Our Students' Success

Every child deserves a chance at success, and our Juvenile Specialty Courts Coordinator (JSSC) makes sure of that. The CIS-SA JSSC works with the Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department participants who are engaged in Specialty Courts programs to address substance abuse, mental health, domestic violence, and school truancy. Students are either referred to a CIS-SA Site Coordinator on their school campus or our JSSC works with students attending non-CIS schools to offer support and access to community resources.



345

opportunity youth engaged in the NXT LEVEL program.

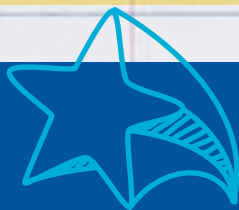
Re-Engaging Opportunity Youth

The NXT LEVEL Youth Opportunity Center is a partnership between CIS-SA, City of San Antonio, and Goodwill San Antonio to re-engage "opportunity youth," those ages 16-24 who are not in school or engaged in the workforce to get them onto a path that's right for their future. This year, CIS-SA NXT LEVEL Life Coaches helped participants assess their goals and create an action plan forward.



Guiding Young Adults to a Brighter Path

One of our NXT LEVEL young adults completed her GED in a few short months and earned Microsoft certifications in her Administrative Assistant training program. She continued to work hard on her educational goals and successfully enrolled in Alamo Colleges in fall as part of the Alamo Promise scholar program. Thanks to the support she received at NXT LEVEL, she is currently making straight A's in her first semester, is completing driving courses to obtain her driver's license, and plans to pursue a degree in Human Resources. Our CIS-SA NXT LEVEL Life Coaches are committed to helping hundreds of opportunity youth find a brighter future to reach their full potential!



Student Success!

Providing STEM Programs to 6,596 Students



Our CIS-SA STEM Department is led by a team of engineers and supported by CIS-SA Site Coordinators working in schools. They focus on providing real-world STEM programming to CIS-SA students to inspire and prepare them for STEM career pathways. Our team teaches STEM education through hands-on activities to inspire the next generation to reach for the stars.

Sparking Interest with Thousands of Students and Families

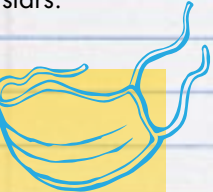
35 schools hosted a STEM Family Night serving a total of 5,761 students and parents. STEM Family Nights allow students and their families an opportunity to try out different STEM projects and activities, enjoy a meal together, and get families engaged in their students' education.



CIS-SA STEM Responds to COVID-19

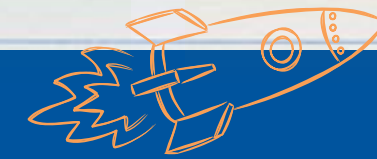
When schools closed abruptly in March, this also meant clubs were not gathering, 15 pre-scheduled STEM Family Nights were cancelled, and STEM education had to move to a digital platform. Here's how our team quickly transitioned to bring the same curriculum and quality to our students, virtually:

- Provided an **At-Home STEM Activity Calendar** for students to stay engaged in their education. The calendar was viewed **34,200** times during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Posted **CIS-SA STEM Space At-Home** videos to YouTube. Videos included STEM challenges for students to do using items they could easily find around the house, like toilet paper rolls and paper plates. Our STEM videos have been viewed **25,600 times** (and counting)!
- Transitioned **CIS-SA Space Clubs**, which traditionally met after school, to a virtual platform with **426** students engaging in virtual STEM activities.



CIS-SA STEM Program Launches Across USA

While transitioning our STEM curriculum to a virtual platform was not how we expected to end the 2019-2020 school year, it came with its own successes. The CIS Space Club **Mission to the Moon** program launched virtually in the fall of 2020. During the program, students become a team of astronauts that complete engineering challenges during an exciting space adventure. With the program available virtually and not contained in a San Antonio classroom, it allowed more than just our San Antonio schools to participate. Students from **24 schools across the country** from California to New York, Ohio to Florida participated in an interactive **Mission to the Moon** including a live career chat with a NASA astronaut!



Nationwide Success!

Increasing Access to Licensed Professional Counselors

683

students received mental health support from our team

582 students received support from our Project Access team

101 teen parents received support from our Clinical Caseworkers



Communities In Schools of San Antonio has provided integrated student support services that ensure their social and emotional well-being on school campuses. Our staff have always been invested in supporting student mental health, but we also have a team of Clinical Caseworkers dedicated specifically to tackling our students' mental health needs.

Our team of Licensed Professional Counselors, or LPCs, are positioned to provide short-term intensive counseling services on campus to students in need, free of charge. Many CIS-SA students do not have access to a mental health professional and CIS-SA is one of the few mental health providers allowed on a school campus to provide services due to our relationship with local school districts. Our team supports elementary, middle, and high school students who are struggling with stress, depressive or negative thoughts, and other behavioral issues.



Supporting Our Teachers Social Emotional Wellness Coaching

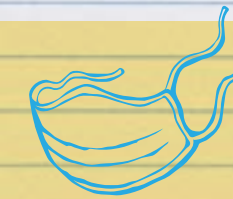
In partnership with Clarity Child Guidance Center, our Social Emotional Wellness Coaches provide support to teachers by informing them of community resources, mental health resources and trainings, teacher support groups, and acting as a safe space for teachers to discuss student issues and concerns in order to create a more supportive classroom.

Our Social Emotional Wellness Coaches served

727

teachers and school staff, expanding the community of support surrounding our students.

CIS-SA Clinicians Respond to COVID-19



The COVID-19 pandemic brought additional stress into our students' lives. Our students experienced more stress, anxiety, and isolation from friends and family. Our clinical team was able to quickly move their counseling sessions to an online, tele-health platform and provide **1,753** mental health services to students in their homes.



Project Access

Our Project Access team consists of Licensed Professional Counselors, or LPCs, positioned in 10 districts to provide short-term intensive counseling services on campus to students in need, free of charge. Our Project Access team provided a total of **4,469** service hours to students in need of support.

582

students supported by our Project Access team in the 2019-2020 school year

101

teen parents received support from our Clinical Caseworkers

Supporting Teen Parents

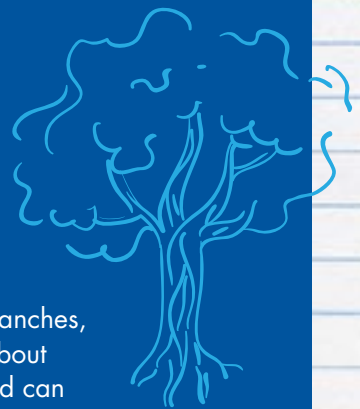
Our team of Clinical Case Workers provide counseling services and guidance to school aged parents through Metro Health, on the school campus or virtually. Our team supported teenage parents through individual counseling sessions for their specific needs and concerns for **2,645** service hours.



Student Success!

Providing Support at a Distance

Our team member, Whitney R., LPC, created a fun and helpful way to get her students to open up through tele-counseling. Virtual sessions can make it difficult for students to open up, so she introduced the Me Tree. "I ask them to draw a tree with as much detail as they'd like, and include the roots, trunk, hole, branches, falling leaves, and the top of the tree. We talk about how each part of the tree has a different role and can represent different aspects of ourselves and our lives," she said. For example, falling leaves may be things we need to let go of, while the roots represent things that ground us. This activity allowed Whitney to share power with her students and encourage them to talk about what is important to them.



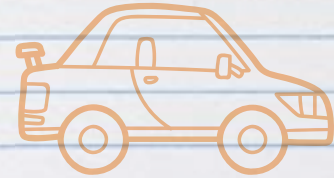
Supporting Students and Families During The Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic interrupted our year, but our team quickly came together and provided for our students when they needed it most.



Delivering Basic Needs

When our families did not have access to transportation to access community resources, our Site Coordinators made deliveries to our students' homes to provide food, hygiene items, and other essentials.



Our Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

90,438

outreach efforts to Communities In Schools families during COVID-19



Bridging the Technology Gap

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted a crucial gap in our community – lack of access to technology. Schools were quick to provide technology to students who needed it, and our Site Coordinators not only delivered these to students' doorsteps, they also instructed caregivers and students from a safe distance how to log into the virtual classroom.

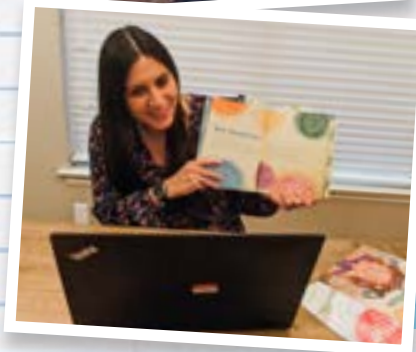


9,953

CIS-SA students served during the pandemic

Helping Students Build Coping Skills

Stay at home orders were in place as the COVID-19 pandemic made its way through our community, leaving many students feeling isolated. With heightened stress, our clinical team stepped in to teach our students coping skills, stress management, and self-care. Our staff used puppets, games, or read books to students to support their mental health.



245

CIS-SA staff and AmeriCorps Members, transitioned to remote work to continue supporting students.



Fostering Connections

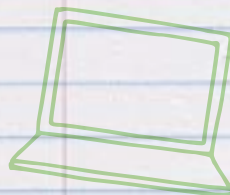
The lack of connection that comes with keeping our distance had many of our students reaching out to our Site Coordinators for support. Through virtual groups with other students, our Site Coordinators were able to foster connections between students to let them know they are not alone



\$137,500

in direct financial assistance

Our efforts to support students both in-person and virtually still continue.





Communities
In Schools®

San Antonio



Our Mission:

To surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Based directly inside schools throughout Bexar County, Communities In Schools connects children and their families to basic and critical educational and community-based resources, tailored to each student's specific needs.

THANK
YOU

We appreciate your support!

To learn more about our students please visit

www.cissa.org



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