

"Communities In Schools of North Carolina provides young people the encouragement and motivation they need to succeed. You cannot assign a value to the impact these programs have on so many futures."

- N.C. State Board of Education Chairman Dr. Bill Harrison

The mission of Communities In Schools is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Communities In Schools of North Carolina (CISNC) is part of the national Communities In Schools network, which is the leading dropout prevention organization in the country, and the only such organization that is proven to decrease the dropout rate *and* increase on-time graduation rates. Our students graduate with marketable skills and a bright future, but most importantly, they have a chance to give back to their peers and community.

CISNC was established in 1989, and we are the state headquarters in North Carolina for the Communities In Schools network. This means we build partnerships with North Carolina counties to set up local 501(c)(3) nonprofits, called Communities In Schools affiliates, to work directly each the community's students.

Currently we provide assistance to 37 local affiliates serving 42 North Carolina counties. In turn, these affiliates connect students and families to the community resources they need. Our affiliates provide students with a one-to-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow a healthy start and future, a marketable skill to use upon graduation and a chance to give back to peers and the community.

Communities In Schools of North Carolina
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CIS' Presence in North Carolina

Brunswick County
Buncombe County
Cabarrus County
Caldwell County
Carteret County
Cherokee County
Clay County
Cleveland County
Cumberland County
Davidson County
Durham County
Forsyth County
Gaston County
Graham County
Guilford County
Halifax County
Haywood County
Jackson County
Lee County
Lincoln County
Macon County
Madison County
Mecklenburg County
Mitchell County
Montgomery County
Moore County
Nash County
New Hanover County
Orange County
Pender County
Pitt County
Randolph County
Robeson County
Rowan County
Rutherford County
Stokes County
Swain County
Transylvania County
Wake County
Wayne County
Wilkes County
Wilson County



Communities In Schools of North Carolina 2009-2010 Impact Report



The mission of Communities In Schools is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.



We measure our success by the results we are able to achieve for the young people we serve.

Communities In Schools achieves its mission by channeling needed resources to children who are at greatest risk of dropping out. Most resources already exist but are spread throughout the community — fragmented, uncoordinated and difficult to access. By coordinating the delivery of these resources at schools — the best place to do so — CIS creates a safety net that surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

Our data-driven model ensures that CIS affiliates operate with uniform best practices. Our results demonstrate vast improvement in key indicators for dropout risk, and independent studies affirm that our model is the most successful in raising graduation rates.

Taking a Closer Look at the Graduation Issue

The graduation rate in North Carolina for economically disadvantaged students is 66.2%, which is 8% less than the state graduation rate of 74.2%. The graduation rate for minorities is also lower than the state average. The latest graduation figures for African-Americans are 66.9%, for Latinos 61.4% and for American Indians 67.9%.

CISNC is working to improve these numbers across North Carolina. Our 2009-2010 End of Year Report shows that 97% of the students we served are economically disadvantaged. Also, 75% of the students Communities In Schools serves are minorities. We are targeting students and schools that need the most help!

The Impact of CISNC in North Carolina

- Nearly 140,000 students were directly served by Communities In Schools, with 12% of them receiving comprehensive services.
- Communities In Schools has a presence in 430 schools and education sites across the state.
- Some 21,000 parents, families and guardians were actively engaged in their children's education, and more than 7,000 participated in opportunities geared solely toward them.
- Ten thousand volunteers served Communities In Schools students, giving more than 245,000 hours of their time.
- More than 3,500 community partners joined Communities In Schools to provide services to our students.

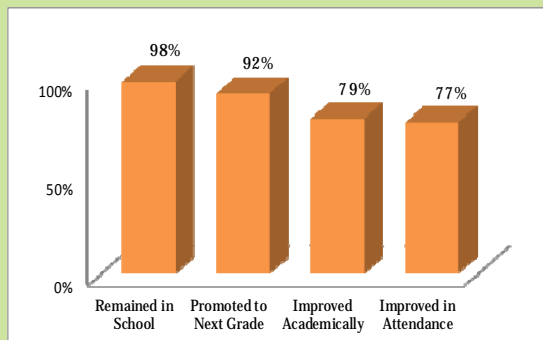
CISNC is Making a Difference

In the 2008-2009 school year, the graduation rate at Goldsboro High School was 44.8 percent. Communities In Schools hired a graduation coach for the 2009-2010 school year, and the graduation rate improved to 53.7 percent. That's a 19.9 percent increase over the previous year!

At a similar school in Wayne County, South Wayne High School, the data paint a different picture. During the 2008-2009 school year, the graduation rate was 70.9 percent. Without the presence of Communities In Schools, the graduation rate actually went down the following year to 70.1 percent.

Communities in Schools is making a difference!

The Impact of CISNC in North Carolina on Our Students during the 2009-2010 School Year



Commitment to Our Students

While the outcomes themselves are impressive, they take on even greater meaning in the context of the student population on which our numbers are based. These are young people who, without the intervention of Communities In Schools, would likely fall far below the state averages for student success.

We all have a role in our mission of surrounding students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. CISNC is committed to student success in our state and is achieving that mission every day. As we work to build a stronger state and nation—one where all youth deserve the opportunity and support they need to graduate from high school, prepared for college, career and life—we invite you to join us in this mission. Together, we can transform the lives of our young people!