



Communities In Schools serves nearly 1.25 million students across the country and more than 54,000 young people in Washington state.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [CISWA.ORG](https://www.ciswa.org)

 [facebook.com/CommunitiesInSchools.Washington](https://www.facebook.com/CommunitiesInSchools.Washington)

 [@CISWashington](https://twitter.com/CISWashington)

YOU CAN CHANGE THE PICTURE

Many children face challenges both inside and outside the classroom. Communities In Schools (CIS) is a locally controlled nonprofit that employs the nation's most effective model to empower students to stay in school and achieve in life. Through a school-based site coordinator, CIS strategically aligns and delivers needed resources so that students can focus on learning.

Supporting CIS's Policy Priorities is something you can do *now* to improve public schools.



THE PROBLEM.



IN WASHINGTON STATE, NEARLY

1 IN 4 STUDENTS FAILS TO GRADUATE ON TIME.¹

Individuals who do not finish high school earn on average **\$1 MILLION LESS** over a lifetime than college graduates.²

Each dropout costs taxpayers about **\$13,890** a year.³

91% of Washingtonians believe the public school system is facing problems or a real crisis. Moreover, the dropout rate ranks among the top issues facing schools, with

88% OF WASHINGTONIANS saying it is a serious problem.⁴

¹OSPI Washington State Report Card
²Alliance for Excellent Education
³Clive Belfield, Henry Levin and Rachel Rosen, "The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth"
⁴Results from a national survey conducted by The Tarrance Group, Beck Research, and SKD Knickerbocker



NANCY PIOMBO (SITE COORDINATOR)
Communities In Schools of Renton



BRIANNA (STUDENT)

KATIE SIEGEL (AMERICORPS SITE COORDINATOR)
Communities In Schools of Peninsula

THE SOLUTION.

For more than thirty years, CIS has helped students at greatest risk of dropping out stay in school by identifying and addressing the unmet needs of these children and families.

Rather than duplicating services or competing with other youth-serving organizations and agencies, CIS fosters cooperative partnerships for the benefit of students and families.

More than 54,000 students in 160 Washington state schools benefit from school-wide services, and more than 4,000 students receive individualized support from a CIS site coordinator.

76% of Washington state voters support CIS's approach to improving education, including 37% who strongly support it.⁵

⁵Results from a Washington State survey conducted by The Tarrance Group, Beck Research, and SKD Knickerbocker

CIS MODEL

TAILORED. CIS employs a tailored, efficient model that empowers students to stay in school and achieve in life. Its dedicated professional site coordinators mobilize community resources to help kids when instability at home prevents them from achieving their potential.

PROVEN. The CIS model is proven and has demonstrated the strongest reduction in dropout rates among all existing fully scaled dropout prevention programs in the US.⁶

COST EFFECTIVE. CIS stretches each education dollar in a time of limited resources. For every dollar invested in CIS, \$11.60 is returned to the community.⁷

LOCALLY CONTROLLED. CIS supports students in all types of communities – rural, urban and suburban. In addition to a strong urban presence, 43 percent of CIS's network is in rural parts of the country.

⁶ICF International, "Communities In Schools National Evaluation Five Year Summary Report," 2010
⁷EMSI, "The Economic Impact of Communities In Schools," 2012

AIMEE ROWLAND (SITE COORDINATOR)
Communities In Schools of Spokane County



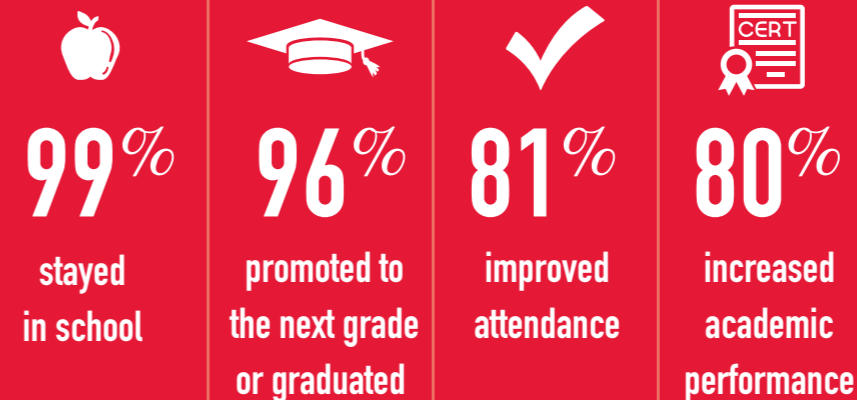
Photo courtesy CIS of Spokane County

POLICY PRIORITIES

SCHOOL-BASED SITE COORDINATION. Eliminate barriers to academic success by providing support to students through community partnerships as part of basic education.

EVIDENCE-BASED. Protect children and taxpayers by requiring programs receiving state funds to have evidence-based research proving their effectiveness.

WASHINGTON STATE RESULTS



AVERY (STUDENT)
Communities In Schools of Lakewood

Photo courtesy CIS of Lakewood