Communities In Schools

Whatcom-Skagit

2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

AFFILIATE-WIDE IMPACT DATA

Communities In Schools
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SCHOOLS WE SERVE

We served **458** case-managed students at **17** schools across 6 school districts, in 5 elementary schools, 8 middle schools, and 4 high schools.

Anacortes School District

- Anacortes Middle
- Anacortes/Cap Sante High

Bellingham School District

- Shuksan Middle
- Squalicum High

Burlington-Edison School District

- Allen Elementary
- Lucille Umbarger Middle

Ferndale School District

- Horizon Middle
- Vista Middle
- Ferndale High

Mount Baker School District

- Kendall Elementary
- Mount Baker Junior High

Mount Vernon School District

- Centennial Elementary
- Harriet Rowley Elementary
- Washington Elementary
- LaVenture Middle
- Mount Baker Middle
- Mount Vernon High

Site Coordinators play an essential role in filling the gaps of services for the communities in which they serve. Our mentors build lasting relationships, broker resources, and empower students and families to feel a sense of belonging in their schools while also helping them strive for educational goals.

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OUR UNIQUE MODEL

A comprehensive approach designed to surround students with a network of support, remove barriers to education, and create equitable conditions for student learning.

CIS AFFILIATES

Hires and trains site coordinators, brings the CIS model to schools in need and mobilizes partners to provide resources.

SITE COORDINATORS

A trained professional who works with school administrators to assess needs, develop a plan and build a team to provide supports to schools and students.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Schools, businesses and community agencies all work together with site coordinator to deliver supports to students and families.

1

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Analyze multiple sources of data to identify the key needs of the school and individual students.

2

PLANNING

Site coordinators lead their school support team to develop a plan to prioritize supports that address academic and non-academic needs.

3

INTEGRATED STUDENT SUPPORTS

Site coordinator and partners deliver tiers of support to the school, students and their families.

4

MONITORING & ADJUSTING

Site coordinator continuously monitors student and school progress and adjusts supports to optimize results.

5

EVALUATION

Continuous assessment of partners and student supports by the CIS affiliate to demonstrate results and improve practice.

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A STORY OF ORDINARY MAGIC

The following three pages show early intervention supports that increased social capital, resilience, and readiness to learn.

"I'm so glad she has a trusted adult she is willing to open up to! That's huge, so I'm so grateful for you and the support you are providing for her. I honestly have seen a pretty big change in her behavior in class – I don't know if anything else has changed in her life so I'll go ahead and attribute that to you."

– Email from a Kendall Elementary teacher to Site Coordinator Heidi

Horizon Middle School Site Coordinator John helped the parent of a case managed student create a resume and apply for jobs. When the parent successfully got the position, it meant that the family was able to remain in their housing. Otherwise, the family would have had to move and the student would have been transferred to a different school abruptly in the middle of the school year. Thanks to the work of Communities In Schools, that student was able to stay in school and continue to achieve!

TIER 1 SUPPORTS

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Tier 1 supports are Whole School Supports that anyone in the school can access. These are aimed at building community and making progress toward school wide goals.

This year **20,428** whole school supports were provided, totaling over **4,747** hours of the following interventions:

HOURS OF SUPPORT

2,598 **Enrichment and Motivation:** lunch & recess activities, affinity clubs, arts & crafts, assemblies, new student welcome, ceremonies/events, after school activities

904 **Basic Needs:** brokering resource support to students and families, including: food, clothing, school supplies, hygiene products, and more

562 **Academic Assistance:** in-class support, tutoring, language acquisition support, homework and classwork assistance, study table, missing assignments, digital equity, literacy support

405 **Life and Social Skills:** leadership training, relationship skills, mentoring, social-emotional learning, communication skills, classroom mindfulness lessons, small group coaching

84 **Family Engagement:** family events, parent education/workshops, resource referrals, parent/guardian conferences, supportive home visits, PTA meetings

194 **Other Supports:** attendance, behavior intervention, civic engagement, college and career preparation, physical health, professional mental health

"As a teacher, I really appreciate your help. You don't know how much help you are to me. Thank you so much for your support."

- Centennial Elementary School kindergarten teacher

"I don't know what we'd do without you. There aren't enough minutes in the day."

- Squalicum High School teacher

TIER 2 SUPPORTS

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Tier 2 supports are provided in small group settings for case-managed students with similar interests, goals, or needs. These are aimed at building peer groups and building a sense of belonging.

This year **1,475** small group supports were provided, totaling over **1,034** hours of the following interventions:

HOURS OF SUPPORT

386 **Academic Assistance:** peer tutoring, homework/classroom assistance, tutoring, after school support, in-class support, academic intervention, missing assignments, school work delivery

321 **Enrichment and Motivation:** lunch activities, success group, alternative lunch space, QSA, care packages, arts and crafts, recreation and sports, field trips, breakfast club, cooking club

233 **Life and Social Skills:** lunch group, SEL lessons, social group, relationship skill building, mentoring, friendship group, leadership training, Lean In Girls

49 **Behavior Intervention and Modification:** classroom behavior, check-in and check-out, active break

13 **Case Management:** assessment, case consultation, IEP/504 meetings, information/referral/intake, progress/data review, quick check in

32 **Other:** attendance, civic engagement, college and career preparation, family engagement, physical health, basic needs

"African American Culture Club has been really good for our Black boys. They've built relationships, they're more unified, more vocal, and advocating for each other. Students feel safe to go to Emely."

- Ferndale High School Principal

"Can we do Girls Group more often? I need this more in my life right now."

- Shuksan Middle School student

TIER 3 SUPPORTS

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Tier 3 supports are individual interventions for case-managed students. These 1:1 meetings are aimed to address unique needs and student goal progress.

This year **4,132** one-on-one supports were provided, totaling over **1,952** hours of the following interventions:

HOURS OF SUPPORT

1,002 **Academic Assistance:** academic check-ins, in-class support, digital equity, missing assignments, tutoring, language acquisition support, credit retrieval

417 **Life and Social Skills:** check ins, social-emotional learning, relationship skills, mentoring, supportive guidance

238 **Behavior Intervention and Modification:** check-in and check-out, active break, conflict resolution, restorative practices, art group, bullying & violence prevention

112 **Case Management:** check in, school staff consultation, IEP/504 meetings, resource referral, social-emotional assessment, progress monitoring

65 **Attendance:** goal sheet, incentives, interventions/modification, mentoring, monitoring/planning

118 **Other:** family engagement, enrichment/motivation, college and career preparation, physical health, professional mental health, basic needs

"Austin is a great person to talk to about things that you might be scared to talk about with other adults and gives me food."

- Lucille Umbarger Middle School student

"By getting help from Ms. Hannah, I was able to grow my perseverance this year."

- Vista Middle School student

CASELOAD POPULATION

Everything we do is guided by community input. Each year we take dedicated time to survey and connect with students, school staff, and families in order to enhance programming.

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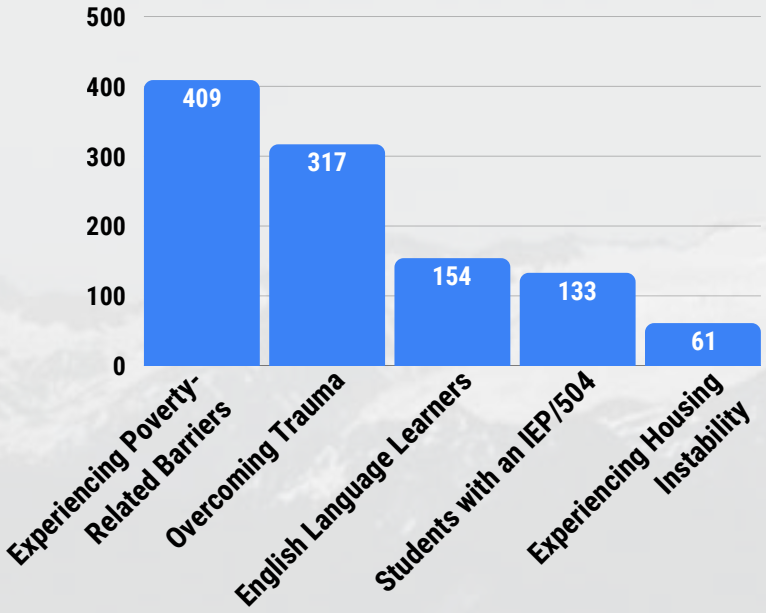
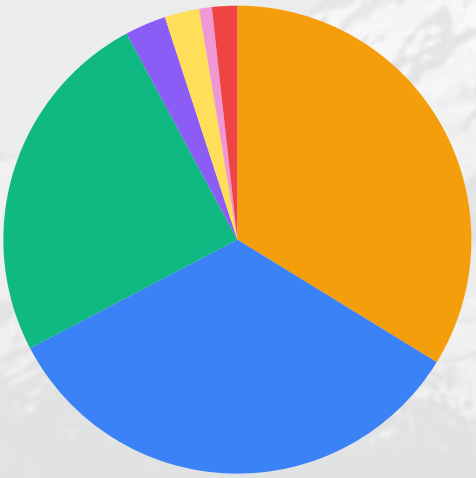
*All the data below is out of **458** case-managed students

ATTRIBUTES

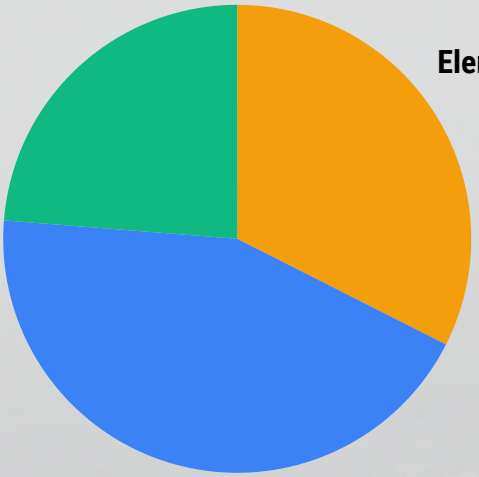


ETHNICITY



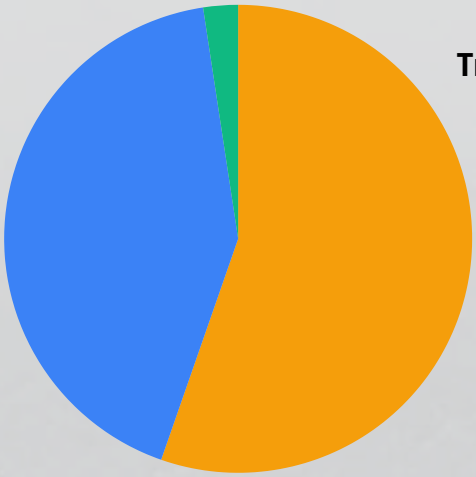
- Latino/Hispanic: 155 (33.8%)
- White: 154 (33.6%)
- Multiracial: 114 (24.9%)
- American Native: 13 (2.8%)
- Black: 11 (2.4%)
- Asian: 3 (0.7%)
- No Data: 8 (1.7%)

AGE GROUPS



- Elementary School: 149
- Middle School: 200
- High School: 109

GENDER IDENTITY



- Cisgender and Transgender Female: 253 (55.2%)
- Cisgender and Transgender Male: 194 (42.4%)
- Nonbinary/ Genderqueer/ Agender: 11 (2.4%)

Here at CIS, our mentors are trained in advocacy and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to develop responsive best practices and advocate for reducing barriers in schools and at home.

Ultimately, the students we serve have done the hardest work and deserve full credit for the impact reflected in this report. We are honored to work with the youth and families who opt in to our program.

SUMMARY OF 2025-26 IMPACT

SCHOOL WIDE IMPACT

7,426 approximate number of students who participated in school wide supports that built a sense of belonging

1,793 approximate number of parents and guardians who were engaged by CIS programming

42,734 BASIC NEEDS PROVIDED

- 36,375 food items (healthy snacks, weekend food assistance)
- 2,108 hygiene products (hair care, dental care, deodorant, menstrual products)
- 2,031 school supplies (backpacks, pens, art supplies, notebooks, water bottles)
- 1,962 clothing items (warm winter clothes, basics, prom formal wear)
- Plus holiday assistance, technology resources, fidgets, alarm clocks, and more!

STUDENT CENTERED IMPACT

5,956 check-ins were conducted over the year to support case-managed student goals and wellbeing

588 total goals were set over the year with case-managed students

415 goals showed improvement or were met by the end of the school year

7,732 total hours of direct support provided

48% of attendance goals showed improvement

64% of academic goals showed improvement

71% of behavior goals showed improvement

85% of SEL goals showed improvement

75% of substance reduction showed improvement

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99.6% of CISWS mentored students stayed in school or graduated

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

As a prevention intervention organization, we are led by the community to provide supports that align with needs. Transparency and accountability are at the forefront of our model, therefore we are happy to share our impact and findings.

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR:

The work that Communities In Schools does is like no other, our Site Coordinators are some of the most amazing people you'll meet and I'm honored to work alongside them. The partnership and collaboration that we have with our schools and community is invigorating. I'm humbled to be the Executive Director and look forward to an exciting future.

Anacortes School District – Passion. Purpose. Possibility.

Bellingham Public Schools – a collective commitment

Burlington-Edison School District

Ferndale School District

Mount Baker School District

Mount Vernon Schools

Mount Baker Foundation

ballmer group

Chuckanut Health Foundation – Investing today for a healthier tomorrow.

Medina Foundation

Skagit Community Foundation

Molina Healthcare

Community Health Plan of Washington

The Norcliffe Foundation

Whatcom County Health and Community Services

Costco Wholesale

wecu – Whatcom Educational Credit Union

Whatcom Family & Community Network

Gesa

United Way Whatcom County

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*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.*

CIS of Whatcom-Skagit exists to build on student strengths and overcome systemic barriers, such as racism and other systemic inequalities, through advocacy, partnerships and individualized social-emotional supports. We believe that ALL children and youth deserve a caring community that empowers them to achieve their goals in the classroom and beyond.