

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF JACKSONVILLE

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Thank you for always helping
out people that don't have
any thing. you are a great
help.
-Ran'Niyah

I Would like to take
to just thank you for
you have done by p
needs and keeping us
Also to encourage us
going and push through
we are going through.
-M

Thank you for all the things
you did for the families and
kids who are in need. Thank you
for supporting this community
and not forgetting about us like
every body else does.
-Tikerra

Dear Communities
Schools Thank you
for everything
you do. Thanks
for giving a helping
hand.
-Sydney

When I grow up I am
to be a teacher. The reason
I would like to be a teacher
because I want to change
Peoples lives. I want kids to
stay in school.
-Lauryn

WELCOME!

COMMUNITIES
IN SCHOOLS OF
JACKSONVILLE

A vertical collage of various school and hobby-related icons. From top to bottom, the items include: a blue and red flag, a yellow calculator, a blue pencil, a red triangular ruler, a red heart, an open book with green and blue pages, a pair of orange-rimmed glasses, a round clock face, a silver paperclip, an orange pushpin, a paintbrush with green paint, a yellow trophy, a slice of pepperoni pizza, the letters 'ABC' in colorful block letters, two purple musical notes, a hamburger, a round-bottom flask with green liquid and bubbles, a green balloon with a string, two yellow stars, the letters 'WE' in orange, and a portion of a sign with the letters 'C', 'H', and 'S' visible.

A collection of colorful, hand-drawn icons representing various subjects: a book, glasses, a clock, a paperclip, a pushpin, a paintbrush, a trophy, a slice of pizza, the letters ABC, musical notes, a hamburger, and a chemistry flask.

A vertical collage of colorful, hand-drawn icons representing various subjects: a knife, a yellow object, a slice of pizza, the letters 'ABC', musical notes, a hamburger, a beaker with bubbles, a green balloon, stars, the letters 'WE', a paperclip, a red apple, and a book with the letters 'C', 'H', and 'S'.

A collection of colorful, hand-drawn icons. At the top left is a green balloon with a black outline and a black squiggly line for a shadow. Below it is a red apple with a green leaf. To the right of the apple is a purple musical note. Further right is a yellow star. Below the star is a pencil and a ruler. At the bottom left is a hexagonal molecular structure with red outlines and white centers. To the right of the molecular structure is another purple musical note. At the bottom right is a book with a yellow cover and a white page.



Jacksonville

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

1990 - 2020

EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO STAY IN SCHOOL AND ACHIEVE IN LIFE

2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Communities In Schools of Jacksonville is a leading dropout prevention organization dedicated to keeping students on the path to graduation. For the past 30 years, we have served Duval County students by utilizing the power of positive adult role models and surrounding them with a community of support in and out of the classroom. This report outlines the many ways we empower students to stay in school and achieve in life.

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LETTER FROM CEO LEON BAXTON



At Communities In Schools of Jacksonville, we are committed to serving the needs of the whole child. That means our staff goes to work every day asking, “What problems are we trying to solve, and what do these kids need to overcome them?”

Some students may not have had dinner the night before and are coming to school hungry. Maybe they’re struggling academically because of a home environment that is less than ideal for learning. It could be that they’re following the wrong crowd in an attempt to fit in. Some may even be facing all of these obstacles at once.

Since 1990, our organization has provided essential wraparound services to more than 110,000 individual students over the course of their academic careers through our nationally recognized Case Management, Literacy and Afterschool Programs. Our staff members are embedded within Duval County Public Schools to ensure we address the root causes of the academic difficulties that can hinder students from reaching their full potential.

As we celebrate 30 years of student success, we continue to push ourselves to recognize the reality of what the kids in our community face – allowing us to grow and improve as an organization while helping our students do the same.

This annual report tells the story of Communities In Schools, from serving 50 students in one school to now working with over 7,000 students in 37 schools. Together, we’re moving the tassel for thousands of local students every year. But our collective impact is only possible through the generosity of our donors and community partners.

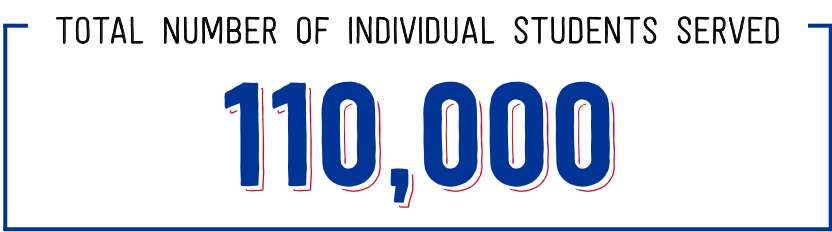
Thank you for trusting us with this vital mission. It is a true honor to serve our students, and we look forward to continuing our work for years to come.

Sincerely,

Leon K. Baxton

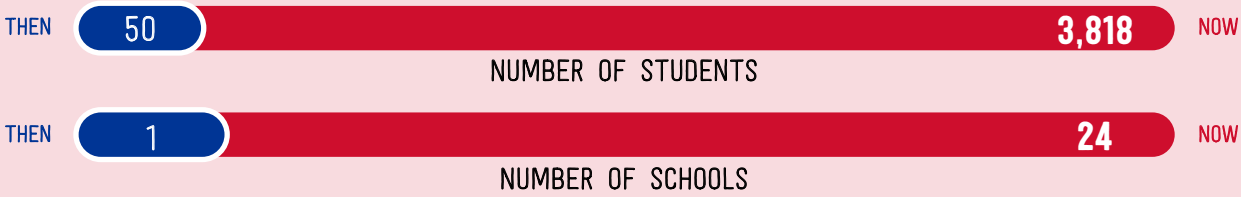
Leon Baxton
Chief Executive Officer
Communities In Schools of Jacksonville

LOOKING BACK ON 30 YEARS



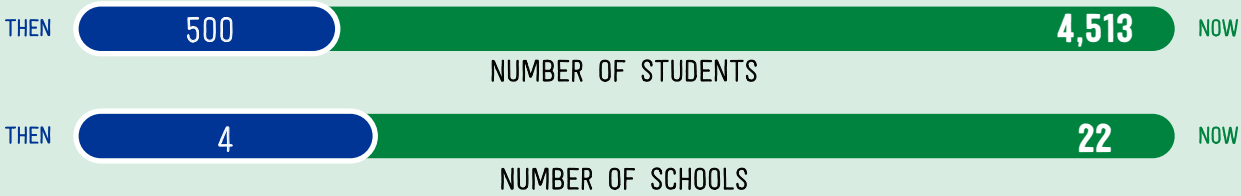
CASE MANAGEMENT

ESTABLISHED IN 1990



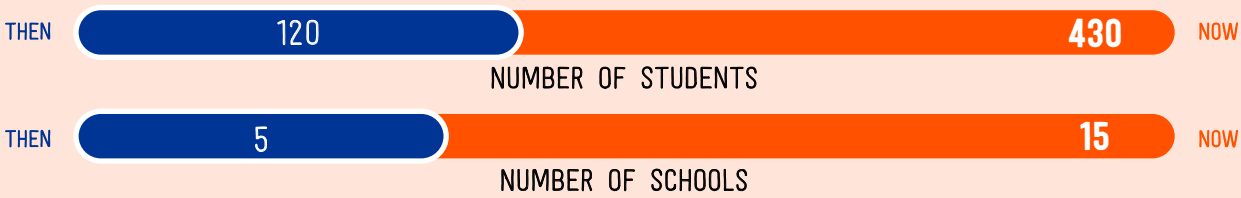
AFTERSCHOOL

ESTABLISHED IN 1998

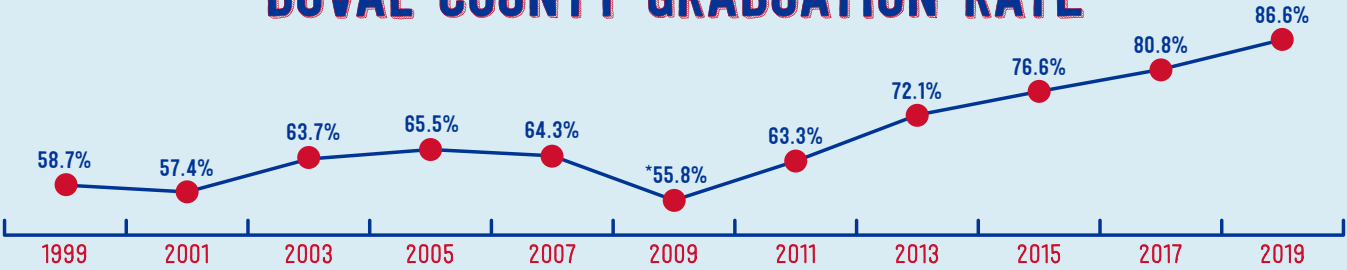


LITERACY

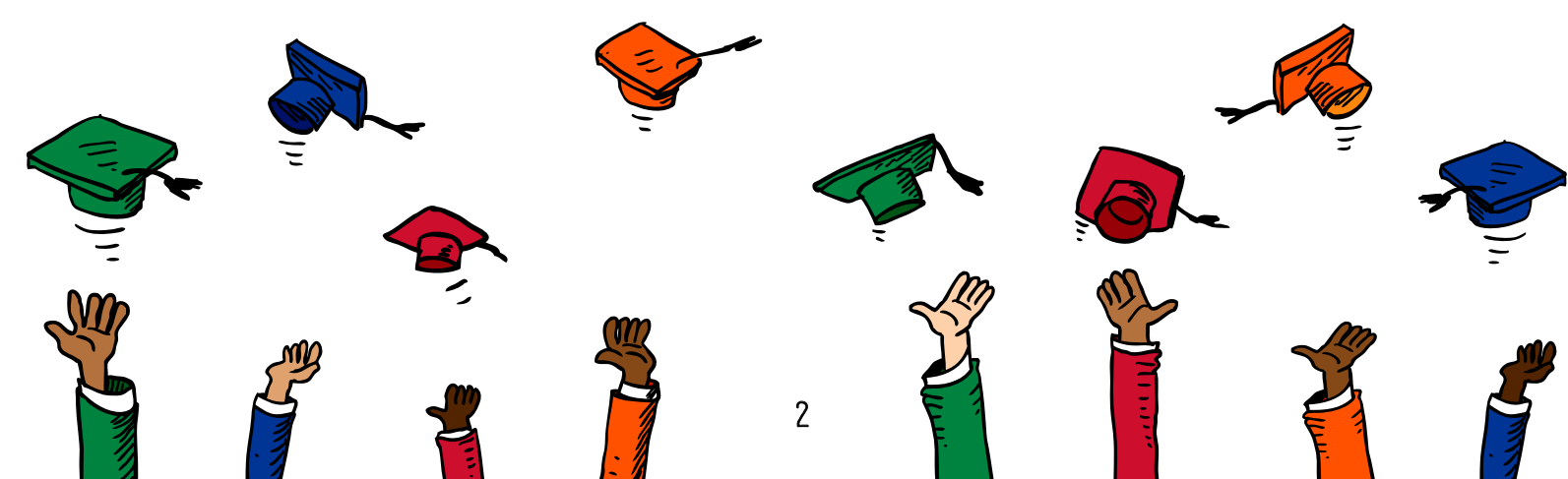
ESTABLISHED IN 1999



DUVAL COUNTY GRADUATION RATE



* Starting in 2009, the graduation rate calculation was adjusted to the Federal Uniform Graduation Rate. | ** Historical data not available before 1999.



A JOURNEY THROUGH OUR HISTORY

1989



Cities In Schools (the precursor to Communities In Schools) is officially incorporated. The organization was created in response to a school dropout prevention study conducted by the Jacksonville Community Council, Inc. that recognized the lack of a community-wide, dropout prevention plan.

1996

Cities In Schools of Jacksonville becomes Communities In Schools of Jacksonville. The organization is the first local program in Florida to achieve chartered status through the Communities In Schools national network.

Also this year... Communities In Schools of Jacksonville student enrollment is up more than 2,000 students from the original 50 at Jefferson Davis Junior High School.

1999



AmeriCorps Duval Reads program starts with 10 members in five elementary schools for literacy tutoring for kindergarten through third-grade students.

1990

The first Cities In Schools of Jacksonville site, Jefferson Davis Junior High School, opens on Jacksonville's Westside. At the time, the school had one of the highest dropout rates in Duval County.

1998



Communities In Schools of Jacksonville is chosen to operate the first four afterschool programs funded by the City of Jacksonville through the Jacksonville Children's Commission (now Kids Hope Alliance).

2001

Worth Magazine chooses Communities In Schools of Jacksonville as one of its "Top Ten Worthwhile Charitable Organizations Most Likely to Change the World."

Two of Communities In Schools of Jacksonville's Afterschool Programs are accredited by the National Scholastic Accreditation Committee Alliance.

2005



The Student Enrichment Program achieves a 90 percent promotion rate for elementary school students and a rate of more than 79 percent for middle school students. A notable 70 percent of Communities In Schools of Jacksonville high school students are graduating.

2006

The Communities In Schools of Jacksonville Literacy Program becomes the largest and most successful in Florida, with 82 percent of students improving their overall reading.

Also, during this time Communities In Schools of Jacksonville began providing the Achievers For Life program in collaboration with Jewish Family & Community Services and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida. The United Way of Northeast Florida created the program to target sixth-grade students at risk for academic failure.

2008



The Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and Communities In Schools of Jacksonville collaborate to launch Jump Start Strings, where more than 100 first through fourth-grade students are provided free violin lessons by symphony members.

2019



Communities In Schools of Jacksonville continues to serve at-risk students in 37 schools throughout the city, impacting their lives each day through its Case Management, Afterschool and Literacy Programs.

2013

A record 99 percent of Communities In Schools of Jacksonville seniors graduate from the high schools the organization serves.

CASE MANAGEMENT

STUDENTS PROMOTED IN 2018-19: **89%**



Our Case Management Division places full-time site coordinators directly within Duval County schools, where they provide support for students who are at risk of falling behind or dropping out. The programs in this division provide access to many important services, including individual and group-session counseling, home visits, and coordinated parental involvement.

The **Student Enrichment Program** is the original program that Communities In Schools began in Jacksonville schools 30 years ago. With activities that lie at the heart of the Communities In Schools philosophy, the Student Enrichment Program places full-time site coordinators on school campuses throughout Duval County. They also work to connect students with community resources to help them thrive.

Our Case Management Division integrates several other programs that address the unique needs of our community's students. **Bridge to Success**, funded by Duval County Public Schools, places site coordinators who work with students currently over-age for their grade level to support them. We also provide **Achievers For Life (AFL)** in partnership with Jewish Family & Community Services and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida. The program targets sixth-grade students exhibiting risk factors of school disengagement and creates wraparound solutions to keep them in school. Finally, we provide **GEAR UP** in partnership with Duval County Public Schools via a federal grant which allows us to follow and support approximately 600 students throughout seven high schools.

AFTERSCHOOL

STUDENTS PROMOTED IN 2018-19: **92%**



Many of the toughest challenges for students occur after the school bell rings. Whether they face hunger or academic obstacles, elementary and middle school students find a safe environment at our Afterschool Program. The free program allows students to complete their homework under teacher supervision and gives them the opportunity to connect with their classmates.

Our Afterschool Program focuses on six core areas – academic enrichment, sports and recreation, life skills, cultural enrichment, parental involvement, and community service. After enjoying a nutritious snack and completing academics, students participate in enrichment activities such as cheerleading, dance, arts and crafts, and sports – each led by highly qualified afterschool staff members.

All of our afterschool sites offer unique opportunities such as our **robotics program** in partnership with Shiva Robotics. This program allows students to practice hands-on STEM learning as they build and program robots to complete tasks as a team.

LITERACY

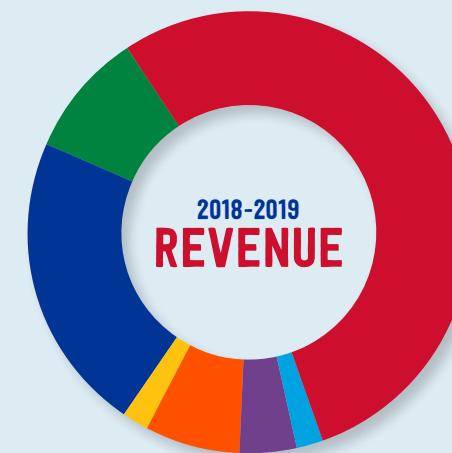
STUDENTS PROMOTED IN 2018-19: **95%**



Reading is the most important skill for students to develop as it sets the foundation for their entire academic careers. Our Literacy Program, **Duval Reads**, was created to address the pressing problem of low literacy rates among elementary school students in our community. The initiative provides intensive one-on-one and small group literacy tutoring for students in elementary school with the goal of increasing each student's reading proficiency by at least 10 percent during the school year. We work with AmeriCorps to place tutors within Duval County schools, where they work on a full-time and part-time basis with their assigned students.

Duval Reads has been embedded in Duval County Public Schools since 1999 and has helped more than 7,500 students achieve their reading goals. By meeting and exceeding goals for the students' reading ability, we help them successfully learn across all subjects – not only preparing them for continued education, but also making an enormous impact on their life outside of the classroom.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



\$7,995,032

- 54% City Funding
- 22% School District Funding
- 9% United Way Funding
- 7% Foundation Funding
- 4% Federal Grants
- 2% Corporate Donations
- 2% Individual Donations



\$7,947,000

- Program Breakdown**
- 27% Case Management
 - 54% Afterschool
 - 7% Literacy

ALUMNI STORIES



AMBER

For as long as she could remember, heading to school was a nightmare for Amber. The Frank H. Peterson Academies of Technology student had been bullied relentlessly by her peers for close to ten years. She often felt completely hopeless. Then, she found Communities In Schools of Jacksonville. After being introduced to her case manager, Mrs. Foster, Amber finally began to find her inner strength.

Amber recalls being nervous the first time she met Mrs. Foster. Soon, though, she began to see her as a dear friend. Throughout the rest of her high school years, Amber continued to make strides and stay on track academically. She graduated in 2016, earning her Child Development Associate credential from her school's Early Childhood Education Academy.

Amber's special connection with her case manager didn't end after high school. Mrs. Foster recommended Amber as an AmeriCorps candidate, and she is now in her second year as a tutor with Communities In Schools, helping students learn to read and write and supporting them just as she once was.

I went through 10 years of being bullied and felt hopeless until I met Mrs. Foster. If it wasn't for Communities In Schools I don't think I would have made it past 10th grade.
-Amber



DOMINIC

Dominic grew up in a single-parent household, the seventh of eight children. In his high-crime/low-income area, making the honor roll and going to college were outside the norm. During middle school, Dominic became involved with Communities In Schools and our free afterschool program.

He said the positive role models, recreational activities and free meals he received helped him overcome his environment and aspire for much more, becoming the first person in his family to graduate from college. That wasn't the case for all his childhood friends, some of whom turned to crime without the positive force of afterschool care. Two former friends are even serving life sentences and several relatives are in prison.

Dominic currently works in the financial sector at JPMorgan Chase. He is now married to his lovely wife Ronda and together they have four amazing children. Dominic also volunteers with Communities In Schools to serve as a role model for kids growing up in similar circumstances.



JOSEPH



YARISIS



JOSHUA



SARRA



EDWARD



PARIS



RODERICK



INDEANA



JORDAN



EMMA



REGGIE



ANGELEAH

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2019, Communities In Schools raised more than \$45,000 at our annual signature event, Rising Stars.

94% of our students qualify for free/reduced lunch.

88% of students in our Literacy Program improved their reading proficiency.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Leon Baxton
Chief Executive Officer



Jerome Baltazar
Chief Financial Officer



Erin Mangan
Chief Development Officer



Carolyn Lynn
Senior Director, Literacy Division



Twilla Washington
Director, Case Management Division



Bryan Jones
Director, Afterschool Division



Ashley Hooper
Director, Communications and Events

REMEMBERING ERIC DANIEL JOHNSON

“What am I going to say today that is going to impact a child? What am I going to say to change a child? That’s what I think about on the drive to work each day.”

- Eric Daniel Johnson



Communities In Schools of Jacksonville, and all of Jacksonville, suffered a tremendous loss with the passing of Eric Daniel Johnson. Eric spent more than two decades mentoring and teaching thousands of local students through our program.

As director of the Afterschool Division, Eric served on the Communities In Schools leadership team and played an important role in our agency’s success and growth. Eric helped build Communities In Schools’ Afterschool Program into a national model. Under his strong leadership and vision, the program grew to support 22 schools and thousands of students each year.

Eric believed that the best way to change a community is by investing in and changing schools. That belief inspired him to inspire others to volunteer and mentor generations of at-risk students in Duval County. Eric left an indelible mark on Communities In Schools of Jacksonville and thousands upon thousands of the students we serve. He will be missed and remembered.

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Sheriff, City of Jacksonville

DID YOU KNOW?

The average tenure of a CIS board member is 10 years.



DONORS

We wouldn't be able to provide our nationally recognized programs without support from our valued donors. Thank you for believing in Communities In Schools – and most importantly, our students!

Aaron Bowman
Aaron Sigall
Alexis Steele
Andrea Dawkins
Andreu Powell
Ashley Hooper
BAE Systems

Bank of America Foundation

Beaches Community Fund
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Vulcan Materials Company

Wells Fargo Foundation

William and Peggy Hoff

Winston Neblett

Woolsey Morcom Law

Yolanda McLendon

Zena Pearson

Thank you
helping and
who are
Communities in Schools for
providing things for people
in need.
-Jeremiah



It is very thoughtful
for you to give to all that are in
need. I/we thank you for all
your hard work that you take the
time to do for us. It is very
generous for you to put smiles
on faces and second chances
in people's lives.♡♡♡

Sincerely, Shanti

Thank you for all the help &
support y'all have brought
upon every child that was,
and has been reaching/crying
out for help and no one
has heard them. But y'all
step up and helped.
-Diamond

Dear Donors of Communities In Schools
Thank you for helping the kids and families
that are in need. You guys & girls help
out those who are not as wealthy as others.
you go out of your way to help others and
y'all may not get a thank you. So we as
students would like to say thank you for all
of your sacrifices.

-Thylee



* Donors in bold contributed more than \$25,000 to Communities In Schools.

