



The Skillman Foundation Presents

YAKTIVITIES FOR HELPING KIDS

Communities In Schools Detroit Program Helps Kids Prepare for Life

Communities In Schools of Detroit (CIS) is a community-based organization that helps kids succeed in school and prepare for life.

Its mission is to connect community resources with schools to help young people successfully learn, stay in school and succeed as adults.

An affiliate of the national Communities In Schools organization, CIS works to provide five key things to children:

- A personal, one-on-one relationship with a caring adult;
- A safe place to learn and grow;
- A marketable skill to use upon graduation;
- A healthy start and a healthy future; and
- A chance to give back to peers and community.

To do this CIS brings caring adults into schools to address children's needs, providing a personal link between educators and the community

CIS then works with each of its partner schools to target the unmet needs of students and the challenges facing the school community. With this information, CIS works to develop partnerships with community and faith-based organizations, corporations and individuals to provide student and school resources.

By doing this, CIS becomes a vital link between schools and the community. Communities In Schools services include:

Academic Incentives Resource Center

The physical resources available for children and teachers shrink every year as school budgets grow smaller. Generous businesses and concerned citizens often want to help, but do not know specific needs or how to donate items. They also don't know how to make sure donated resources will be used well to benefit children and schools. The CIS



Children of all ages benefit from resources provided by Communities In Schools.

Academic Incentives Resource Center (AIRC) provides a way to tap community resources and get them into schools where they can do the most good.

Distributing Materials

CIS receives more than \$3 million in donated items from generous individuals, corporations and organizations every year. While some items are delivered directly to schools, most are received, organized and distributed by the AIRC. The AIRC works to send resources to schools where the needs are greatest. Donated items enrich a school's available supplies and resources or are used as incentives to encourage student

achievement, parent involvement and teacher excellence.

After-School Services

Some of the most important services for children are those provided when kids are unsupervised or at greatest risk for unhealthy activities. The after-school hours, when many parents are still at work, are some of the most critical of the day. This fact prompted CIS to provide out-of-school services for Detroit students after school on weekdays. CIS provides such services for schools throughout the city of Detroit.

Innovative Schools

Students with academic, disciplinary and/or attendance challenges are among those at greatest risk for school failure and future difficulty in the workforce. In addition, many alternative education programs have trouble creating an effective learning environment. For these reasons, CIS established its Innovative Schools Division and launched its first venture, the Detroit Lions Academy, in 2000.

For More Information

Call 313-571-3400

Visit www.cisdetroit.org

Communities In Schools

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THINK ABOUT RESOURCES

The Communities In Schools program seeks to connect resources in the community to schools that need them. Resources can be materials like computers, paper or calculators or volunteers and organizations that can provide personal assistance. With family members, talk about the different kinds of resources schools need to help kids succeed. Then brainstorm individuals, businesses or organizations that might be able to donate or provide resources for schools. Contact some of them and see if they would make donations.