



Communities In Schools

Marietta/Cobb County

Volunteer Opportunities



Mission Statement

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.

What is CISMCC?

- Nationally Accredited Communities In Schools Affiliate
- Part of a nationwide network of CIS affiliates—one of a very small number of dropout prevention programs in the country proven to keep students in school and is the only dropout prevention program in the nation with research to prove that it increases graduation rates.
- A local nonprofit supported by a combination of federal, state and local public funds and other local private, corporate and individual contributions.
- Governed by a 14 member Board of Directors which includes leaders of the school districts, the local business community, social service and child serving agencies, and post-secondary educational institutions.
- Serving students in Marietta City Schools (Dunleith Elementary, Marietta Middle School and Marietta High School) and Cobb County Schools (Osborne High School, Pebblebrook High School, South Cobb High School, and Campbell High School).
- Partnering with both school districts to support the Performance Learning Centers which are non-traditional high schools for students who are not succeeding in traditional school.

The FIVE CIS Basics

We believe that every child needs and deserves:

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

Current Programs

- CISMCC Site Coordination
- Ambassador Leadership Program
- CISMCC Mentoring Program for middle/high school students
- Georgia Literacy Connection (GLC) tutoring for grades K-5
- Parents as Teachers (PAT) Ages 0–5 years
- Reality U - Financial Literacy Simulation
- School-wide Book Distributions

2015-2016 Highlights

- ✓ 257 High School Graduates
- ✓ 5,000 Students served (PLCs, Sites, Reality U, Community Events, Book Distributions, Tutoring, Early Learning)
- ✓ 571 Parents served
- ✓ 53 Preschool Children served
- ✓ 3000+ New and used books distributed to students
- ✓ 16 Schools Served
- ✓ 355 Community Volunteers donated 1,951 Volunteer hours; \$43,995 in value

MENTOR PROGRAM

Our Mission:

The mission of Communities in Schools of Marietta/Cobb County, Inc. (CISMCC) is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. We provide services and resources for families and communities. One of our five basic principles is all children deserve a meaningful one-on-one relationship with a caring adult.

What is a mentor?

A mentor is a friend, a trusted counselor, a tutor, a coach, a big brother or a big sister.

Why mentor?

Mentoring helps children to grow and develop. Also, mentoring can connect children with: safe places and structured activities during non-school hours, a healthy start, marketable skills through effective education and an opportunity to give back through community service. Mentoring cultivates character and allows adults to serve as a friend, a trusted counselor, a tutor, or a coach.

Who can be a mentor?

A mentor is an adult who, along with parents, provides young people with support, counsel, friendship, reinforcement and constructive example. Mentors are good listeners, people who care and want to help young people bring out strengths that are already there.

Getting Started!

Submit a volunteer application to CISMCC which includes permission to obtain a background check, attend CISMCC Orientation, a one - two hour mentor training and enroll in the online national mentoring partnership training. Also, the mentor should be willing to attend quarterly support meetings and meet with the mentee at school at least 3 times a month as well as write the mentee a letter\note\card once a month.

Making the match!

After the volunteer application is processed the Site Coordinator makes a match and an introductory meeting is scheduled with the mentor, the mentee, parent and Site Coordinator. At that meeting guidelines and expectations are discussed and the mentor-mentee relationship is established.



TUTORING PROGRAM

Our Mission:

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What is a tutor?

A tutor is a private instructor who teaches a specific subject or skill to an individual student or small group of students. Such attention ideally allows the student to improve knowledge or skills more rapidly than in a classroom setting.

Why tutor?

A positive adult role model who takes an interest in a student's life can make the difference between school success and dropout. Our students want to succeed and look forward to sharing their accomplishments and setbacks with an adult who can guide them along the way.

Who can be a tutor?

A tutor is an adult with expertise in a subject area who is willing to spend time helping students in that area. Tutors can be anyone with a general desire to help students achieve academically and socially.

Getting Started!

Submit a volunteer application to CISMCC which includes permission to obtain a background check, attend CISMCC Orientation and mentor training.

Making the match!

After the volunteer application is processed, the CIS Site Coordinator makes a match based on academic need and an introductory meeting is scheduled with the tutor, student and Site Coordinator. At that meeting guidelines and expectations are discussed and the tutoring relationship is established.

The Commitment

Tutors must be able to meet with their student at least 3 times a month.



GEORGIA LITERACY CONNECTION TUTORIAL PROGRAM

Our Mission:

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What is the Georgia Literacy Connection Program?

The Georgia Literacy Connection Program provides volunteer tutorial services to struggling students in the early elementary grades in our partner elementary schools. One of CIS's basic beliefs is that every child deserves a meaningful one-on-one relationship with a caring adult. The Georgia Literacy Connection allows volunteers to work individually with students so that they may improve academically and enjoy the support of a caring adult.

Who can tutor?

A tutor is any individual who has the desire to open the eyes of a child through the world of books. The tutor meets with two children (each individually) for thirty minutes a week throughout the school year. A total of one hour a week is required. An application that includes permission to obtain a background check is required.

What happens next?

After the application and background check has been received, tutors receive training to become familiar with the literacy materials and the record keeping process. Tutors work with the Communities In Schools volunteer coordinator and appropriate school personnel to be matched with students in need. Tutors help the students with word attack skills, phonics, grammar and necessary skills to become an accomplished reader.

Book Distributions

In some of the lowest-income neighborhoods in the country there is only one book available for every 300 children. Literacy volunteers distribute books to all children in partner schools to increase access to books for all children. Book distributions encourage a love of reading through choice of high quality new books to take home and keep. Books in the home improve family reading habits by allowing families to begin a home library and encourage parents' active participation in their children's education.

Objectives of the Literacy Connection Program

- To recruit volunteers to raise reading/language skills of students in grades K-5.
- To raise levels of self-esteem, positive values, and good work habits of the students.
- To motivate students to work hard, achieve good grades and be successful.
- To involve parents in the success of their children.
- To foster good relationships among parents, teachers and community members.



REALITY U

Communities In Schools of Marietta/Cobb County, Inc.

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What is Reality U?

Reality University is a financial literacy simulation for middle and high school students to learn financial literacy and the correlation between fiscal well-being and academic achievement.

Why Reality U?

There are significant economic challenges for young people as a result of failing classes and dropping out of high school. They rarely realize the consequences until it is too late. High school dropouts earn less per year than high school graduates, and significantly less over a lifetime than college graduates. Far too many students fail to graduate on time with a regular diploma resulting in lost wages and productivity over their lifetimes that imposes a considerable impact on the economy of the community in which they live. Even college-bound students or students already in college do not have the financial literacy skills to effectively manage their lives.

Reality University teaches youth about financial literacy, budget management and the importance of education as it relates to their goals and dreams. It guides them while they are still in school and helps the student to make wise choices and realistic decisions that will positively impact their future.

How can I have the Reality University presented at my school of site?

Contact Shayla Jones at 678-503-0901 or sjones@cismcc.org

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS

IS LOOKING FOR

Job Shadowing Opportunities

Job shadowing opportunities provide students with real-life experience in specific career areas. Students follow business professionals in a one-on-one capacity, or in a group setting for a full day or a half day. The objective is to broaden the students' knowledge of certain careers, and provide exposure to various vocations.

Hosts will:

- ◆ Introduce profession
- ◆ Answer questions
- ◆ Provide tour
- ◆ Allow students to observe daily routine



Communities
In Schools

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Parents As Teachers (PAT)

Mission:

The mission of Communities in Schools of Marietta/Cobb County, Inc. (CISMCC) is “to champion the connection of needed community resources with schools to help young people successfully learn, stay in school and prepare for life.”

What is Parents As Teachers?

The Parents As Teachers Program is an international early childhood and family support program that provides a mechanism by which CISMCC will expand and/or enhance services to parents and children, ages birth to 5 years. Parents are provided the tools and strategies that give them confidence in their parenting skills and knowledge of child development. One of the basic beliefs is that every child deserves a healthy start and a healthy future. This program will assure that parents will be able to give their children the best possible start in life.

Who can participate?

Any parent who is pregnant or have children ages 0 to 5 years can enroll in the program. Parents must be willing to attend monthly group meetings and allow the parent educator to visit in their home weekly, bi-weekly or monthly.

What happens next?

After registration, the CISMCC parent educator will call and make an appointment to visit the parent/parents and child in their home. The parent educator will conduct screenings, home assessments, and observation of the child at the child’s present level of development. The parent educator will provide appropriate referrals to other community organizations that are available to assist the family.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PARENTS AS TEACHERS PROGRAM

- To recruit 50 children and their parents
- To increase parent’s knowledge of child development stages (intellectual, language, social and motor skills)
- To increase the parent’s level of confidence in their skills as a parent
- To give the parents coping skills to reduce child abuse and neglect
- To provide early detection of developmental problems
- To strengthen the relationship between parent and child
- To make parents aware of community resources available to assist their family

Contact Evelyn Algarin at (770) 948-0407 or ealgarin@cismcc.org for additional information.

Parents As Teachers and Office Volunteer Opportunities

Parents As Teachers Volunteer Activities

- Assist parent educators with baby showers
- Assist with parent connection meetings
 - Setup/ Cleanup
 - Crafts
 - Story-time
 - Distribution of snacks
- Parent resource center

Office Volunteer Opportunities

- Answer phone
- File papers
- Sort and label books
- Assist staff with program materials
 - Mentor handbooks
 - Volunteer packets
 - Reality U documents

