The Georgia Department of Education recently released graduation figures for 2016. The jump from 78.8 percent in 2015 to 79.4 percent in 2016 reflects an increase for the fifth straight year. That’s great news, and it reflects a commitment among Georgia’s officials to make sure students succeed in school and graduate.

But even as we celebrate this success, we also need to remember that we still have a lot of work to do. Georgia’s high school dropout rate remains above the national average, according to new data released from the National Center for Education Statistics.

There are many reasons children drop out of school. At Communities In Schools of Georgia, we are committed to digging deeper, and identifying and addressing the causes. We know that providing early intervention for children at risk of school failure is critical, as well as concentrating on the whole child. We believe that each child, in each school, in each community, deserves to be healthy, safe, engaged and challenged to reach their full potential.

In Georgia, nearly two-thirds of the state’s 1.6 million students in public K-12 schools are low-income students. During the 2015-16 school year, the CIS of Georgia network of 30 affiliates helped more than 124,000 students face their barriers through our proven model of assessing the students’ needs, and connecting at-risk students and their families to basic and critical educational and community-based resources. Of those students, 97 percent were promoted to the next grade, and 89 percent of the seniors realized their dream and graduated.

This year, we have sharpened our focus on those children most at-need, and helping them break the cycle of poverty and academic failure. This includes the high-risk subgroups of children in foster care, those who have been adjudicated within the state juvenile justice system, and homeless youth. The Georgia Department of Education reports there are 39,695 homeless students enrolled in our public K-12 schools, and 19,466 children came through the Georgia foster care system during FY16.

With your generous support, at Communities In Schools of Georgia, we help children to Imagine It, Believe It and Achieve It. Together, we can make a difference.
Communities In Schools is the nation’s largest dropout prevention organization, and was established in Atlanta, Georgia in 1972. Communities In Schools of Georgia does whatever it takes to help at-risk students stay in school and succeed in life. Based directly inside schools throughout Georgia, Communities In Schools connects children and their families to basic and critical educational and community-based resources, tailored to each student’s specific needs. Our evidence-based approach, adapted to meet each community’s unique needs, is the basis for our success. Many children face challenges both inside and outside the classroom. Through a school-based site coordinator, Communities In Schools strategically aligns and delivers needed resources so that students can focus on learning.

Basic Needs
A student cannot focus in the classroom if he or she is hungry, cold or tired, or cannot see the board. Site coordinators see to it that students’ basic needs are met on a daily basis.

Behavioral Interventions
Many of our students face and overcome difficult obstacles in their lives. Our program teaches students positive ways to cope with anger through conflict resolution and other strategies to keep them focused on school and help them overcome these obstacles.

Family Engagement
CIS Site coordinators connect families with counselors and social workers to make sure that home is a healthy, nurturing environment where a student can feel safe.

Academic Assistance
Our site coordinators work hard to ensure that students have the resources needed to progress academically. From providing students with tutors, to finding and creating quiet spaces where students can study, we do whatever it takes to create an optimal learning environment for our students.
graduation rate for CIS-served students

among CIS-served elementary and middle school students

of students who were chronically absent improved attendance rate

of students with disciplinary problems had fewer school suspensions

Making

124,000 students served
$18 to $1 economic return on state funds invested in Communities in Schools of Georgia

20,589 parents received support and services from CIS to help their children succeed in schools

1,338 mentors partnering with CIS-served students

233 schools

and 3 community based sites across Georgia served by CIS
### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>6/30/2016</th>
<th>6/30/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$1,476,640</td>
<td>$2,553,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash Held for Restricted Purposes</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>6,136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash</td>
<td>$1,477,496</td>
<td>$2,559,820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Investments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>6/30/2016</th>
<th>6/30/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pledges and Other Receivables</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>275,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Other Receivables</td>
<td>382,995</td>
<td>513,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments and Other Receivables</td>
<td>50,400</td>
<td>65,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$2,060,891</td>
<td>$3,414,660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

#### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>6/30/2016</th>
<th>6/30/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>$693,970</td>
<td>$849,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Support</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Rent</td>
<td>145,934</td>
<td>122,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Payable</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$842,404</td>
<td>$972,366</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>6/30/2016</th>
<th>6/30/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>$1,067,146</td>
<td>$1,773,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>151,341</td>
<td>668,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$1,218,487</td>
<td>$2,442,294</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Consolidated FY2016 Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>6/30/2016</th>
<th>6/30/2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$1,090,496</td>
<td>$1,208,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>176,904</td>
<td>432,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of Georgia</td>
<td>1,053,100</td>
<td>1,287,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local School Systems</td>
<td>85,050</td>
<td>126,501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS National</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>195,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>108,213</td>
<td>430,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>41,108</td>
<td>126,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$2,554,871</td>
<td>$3,807,738</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Notes: *Total expenses include funds from multi-year grants accrued in prior years. Full financials and IRS990 can be viewed at cisga.org or guidestar.org*
The Impact of the State Office

CIS of Georgia provided training and technical support to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>CIS executive directors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>152</td>
<td>CIS site coordinators</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>AmeriCorps members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230</td>
<td>CIS Affiliate board members</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

28 (93%) Affiliates were accredited

26 CIS of Georgia placed 26 CIS AmeriCorps Tutorial members at CIS schools who provided over 27,000 of tutorial services to students, a service contribution worth $643,552.

Beating the Odds Analyses

108 CIS-served schools “Beat The Odds” in 2016, performing better than statistically expected on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) -- the statewide accountability system.

Local affiliates: We provided services during FY 15-16 in the Georgia communities of: Albany/Dougherty, Athens/Clarke, Atlanta (Atlanta Public Schools, Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton), Augusta/Richmond, Milledgeville/Baldwin, Fitzgerald/Ben Hill, Berrien, Cochran/Bleckley, Burke, Candler, Carrollton/Carroll County (Carrollton City, Carroll County), Catoosa, Central Georgia (Bibb and Tier I only in Peach, Houston and Monroe Counties), Marietta/Cobb County (Marietta City, Cobb County), Coweta, Dodge, Douglas, Glascock, Glynn, Hancock, Hart, Henry, Laurens (Laurens, Dublin City, Twiggs), Rome-Floyd (Rome City, Floyd County), Savannah/Chatham County, Troup, Turner, Walton (Walton, Social Circle City), Warren, Washington, and Wilkes.
Mackenzie, 2016 Graduate, Rutland High School, Macon

Mackenzie seemed destined to drop out of school. He was classified as a 9th grader for the third year in a row after failing every core class during the 2013-2014 school year. He had attained only 10 of the 24 credits needed for graduation. Truancy was also a problem for Mackenzie. It looked like he would become another statistic, adding to Georgia’s dropout rate -- which is already one of the highest in the nation. But in the early months of the 2014-2015 school year, Mackenzie was referred to Communities In Schools of Central Georgia (CIS), and his life changed. His CIS Site Coordinator Lauren Gunn immediately began working with him, and soon learned that Mackenzie was academically capable of achieving in school, but was facing many personal and family barriers to success. Gunn developed a plan that would help improve Mackenzie’s motivation and attendance in school, and by the end of the school year, Mackenzie had earned passing grades in every class. However, his attendance was still a problem. Because of seat-time requirements, it looked like Mackenzie would fail two classes -- something his site coordinator felt might cause Mackenzie to give up and drop out of school. As it turned out, Mackenzie was eligible for a waiver from his principal Kent Sparks for this requirement because he was repeating both classes, and had earned enough seat time to fulfill his requirements. The waiver came after assurances by Mackenzie and his CIS Site Coordinator that his positive growth could continue in the following school year. This time, Mackenzie was committed to finishing his high school career and earning a degree. Mackenzie returned in the 2015-2016 school year with a chance at graduating in May of 2016 if he passed every class. His new CIS Site Coordinator Emily Stecher monitored his grades and attendance, holding him accountable when appropriate, while encouraging and supporting him. She began working with Mackenzie on college applications and career exploration opportunities. Mackenzie had never considered attending college or actually having a “career” as a possibility for himself. On May 26, 2016 Mackenzie persisted and earned his diploma from Rutland High School, becoming the first high school graduate in his immediate family.
Madison, 8th Grade, Glynn Middle School

When students face adversity many throw in the towel, but not Madison!

Madison was in the 8th grade when she was referred to Communities In Schools of Glynn County because she needed eye glasses. Site Coordinator Tonya Barbee worked with VSP Sight for Students and Madison received her new glasses. But Tonya knew something else was bothering young Madison. The middle schooler always walked the hallways of the school with her head hung low. She was very withdrawn and seemed deeply upset and sad. The CIS site coordinator continued to meet with Madison, and they built a trusting relationship. Madison soon began to tell Tonya her story. Her family had been evicted from their home, and young Madison and her family were facing homelessness. They were forced to live in a hotel, circumstances that would cause many young children to give up. But Madison refused to quit. She was determined to succeed. She continued to meet with her site coordinator, and concentrated on her classwork. She improved her grades, currently maintains a B average and is actively involved with Glynn Middle School’s chorus program.

Madison’s current living situation places her out of zone for Glynn Middle School, but she is so dedicated to finishing her 8th grade year at Glynn Middle School that she finds a ride every day to the closest bus stop. And she isn’t stopping there. Madison wants to be a social worker one day so she can help others with their struggles. Through her own experiences, she feels like she can empower other students facing difficult circumstances to succeed. Since connecting with CIS, Madison is noticeably more hopeful and vibrant. She is an inspiration and a success!

“I’ve learned that sometimes we are unable to remove every obstacle a student faces, but if we get in their corner and support them through it, they have a greater chance to come out shining....just like Madison.”

Tonya Barbee, CIS of Glynn County Site Coordinator
Communities In Schools of Georgia offers a grateful Thank You to the individuals, corporations, foundations, government organizations and all other partners who supported our success during 2015-2016 fiscal year. This includes those who have made in-kind donations. Your support is appreciated.

**Honor Roll Donors**

Individuals who have donated $1,000 or more to Communities In Schools of Georgia in the 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year

Anonymous
Frank Barron, Jr.
Richard Bowers
Jennifer Johnson Burns
Anya V. Chambers
Bradley Currey, Jr.
Wendell Dallas
Tjuan Dogan
Kathleen and Hugh Edge
Marie C. and Terrell H. Gooding
Paula Goodman
Linda Kelley and Erik Wilke
Carol F. Lewis
Wilton Looney
William A. Mitchell, Jr.
Edgar R. Moore, Jr.
Janice and Mickey G. Nall
David and Cecelia Ratcliffe
Raymond H. and Bobbie Ann Reynolds
Thomas and Alexandra Roddy

**Individuals**

Judy Agerton
Valkyrie Anderson
Anonymous
James H. and Frances S. Blanchard
J. Dan Blitch
Daniel Boland
Zenda Bowie
Rebecca Rutherford Briggs
Larry G. Briggs
Catherine Broussard
Patricia and Robert Defenbaugh
Ashley Derrick
Aaron Dyson
Patricia and Michael Falotico
Richard and Mary Gerakitis
Gwynn Grandy
Erin Hames
Sherry Heyl
Sharon and Ben Hill
Amy C. Hogan
Emily Jones
Robert and Cathy Law
Cecilia Loos
David V. and Lynn Dee Martin
Nan and Andy Mays
Barbara D. Miller
Charles M. Miller
Cindy Morley
Virginia “Ginny” R. Nickles
Cindy Cheatham Pietkiewicz
Neil Shorthouse
Julie Smith
Vijaya Sridharan
Gary W. Tapp
Elizabeth Terrell
Jennie C. Trotter
Belinda Vogel
Davida Morgan Washington
J. Foster Watkins
William L. Westbrook

**Employee Giving Programs**

AT&T Employee Giving Campaign
Bank of America Employee Giving Campaign
Club of Hearts – Georgia Power and Southern Company Employee Giving Program
Combined Federal Campaign – National Capital Area
Georgia State Charitable Contributions Program
IBM Employee Charitable Contribution Campaign

**In-Kind Contributions**

The Atlanta Journal Constitution
IBM
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
**Foundation and Corporation Gifts**

AGL Resources Private Foundation  
Arby’s Foundation, Inc.  
Buckhead Rotary Foundation  
Chai Pani, Inc.  
Frazier and Deeter  
Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement  
Georgia Power Foundation  
Horizon Restaurant Professionals - Agave  
IBM  
John and Mary Franklin Foundation  
Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation  
Luther and Susie Harrison Foundation  
National Philanthropic Trust  
No Mas Cantina  
P.L. Searcy, Inc. – Wahoo Grill  
Publix Super Markets, Inc. – Making Change  
RB Management Services  
RMR Group  
Smith & Howard  
Southstar Energy Services – Georgia Natural Gas  
Six Feet Under, LLC  
Steel Restaurant  
Taqueria del Sol, Inc.  
United Way  
Walmart State Giving Program  
The Zeist Foundation, Inc.

**Matching Gift Programs**

Best Buy  
Equifax  
Once for All, Inc. – Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta

**Board of Directors 2015-2016**

Ms. Marie C. Gooding, Chair  
First Vice President, Chief Operating Officer / Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Ms. Paula Goodman Vice Chair  
Director, Retail Field Training  
Training, Learning Development  
Best Buy Stores

Mr. Wendell Dallas, Past Chair  
Vice President, Operations  
Atlanta Gas Light & Chattanooga Gas

Mr. Trey Ragsdale, Secretary  
Manager, Government & Community Relations / Kaiser Permanente

Dr. David V. Martin, Treasurer  
Executive Director  
Georgia Council on Economic Education

Mr. Frank Barron  
Rome Coca Cola Bottling Company  
(Retired)

Ms. Zenda Bowie  
Director of Field Services  
Georgia School Boards Association

Ms. Jennifer Johnson Burns  
Vice President & Group Counsel  
Equifax, Inc.

Ms. Anya Chambers  
Co-Owner / CrossFit Downtown Atlanta

Dr. Tjuan Dogan  
Corporate Citizenship & Corporate Affairs Manager / IBM

Ms. Kathleen Edge  
Executive Vice President, Human Resources / Southwire

Ms. Erin Hames  
President / ReformED, Inc.

Mr. Seth Harp  
Attorney (Retired)

Ms. Barbara Miller  
Assistant General Counsel  
Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta

Mr. Edgar R. Moore, Jr.  
Partner / Frazier & Deeter, LLC

Mr. Mickey G. Nall  
Ogilvy Public Relations (Retired)

Ms. Virginia “Ginny” Nickles  
Director of Mission Mobilization and Innovation  
Peachtree Presbyterian Church

Ms. Carol F. Lewis, President  
Communities In Schools of Georgia, Inc.

**LEGAL COUNSEL**

Mr. Wes Sheumaker  
Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
Invest in Success:

There are many ways you can support Communities In Schools of Georgia. Whether through financial and in-kind support, time and effort, or skills and expertise, your support can change lives. When you Invest in Communities In Schools of Georgia, you invest in the success of a child.