



# **Communities In Schools of Brunswick County, Inc.**

## **2010-2011 Annual Report**

*“Empowering Students to Stay in School and Achieve in Life”*

**Communities In Schools of Brunswick County, Inc.  
2010-2011 Annual Data and Information Report**

*The following information reflects services offered by Communities In Schools (CIS) of Brunswick County, Inc. for children and families. The services address dropout prevention and the need for coordinated community-based resources among communities of faith, county agencies, local government, businesses, civic groups, nonprofits, and the volunteer community.*

*Through formal partnerships with the Brunswick County Board of Education, Brunswick County Government and community partners, CIS facilitates six core programs: Adopt A School and Volunteer Program, After School Program, Dropout Prevention Program/Action for Success, Family Resource Centers/Parenting Education, Teen Court/Peer Court, and Academic Scholarships.*

**Adopt A School and Volunteer Program**

**Services Provided:**

- Recruitment and training of volunteers focusing on one-on-one tutoring/mentoring for students performing below grade level to provide remediation and positive role models
- Recruitment of adopting partners through businesses, communities of faith, civic groups, and agencies to provide needed community resources for children and schools
- A consistent and structured Adopt A School and Volunteer Program for all Brunswick County Schools

**Measures of Success 2010-2011:**

- 307 new volunteers trained
- 512 one-on-one community volunteer tutors/mentors served 1,462 students
- 19,978 one-on-one volunteer hours (value of \$376,585)
- 226 adopting partnerships provided \$143,455 in-kind donations to schools

**After School Program**

**Services Provided:**

- Affordable, quality after school programs in a safe, nurturing environment at 7 elementary schools
- Homework assistance and educational enrichment to promote academic success and help students achieve appropriate grade level proficiencies
- Enrichment opportunities in life skills, recreation, community service, and exposure to community based activities to promote personal development
- *No Child Left Behind* Supplemental Educational Services – after school tutoring for identified students

**Measures of Success 2010-2011:**

- 479 students (K-5) received services (131 scholarships)
- 69 students performing below grade level received one-on-one/small group tutoring services through grant project
- 70% of students tutored through grant project increased their Math grade by at least one level and 77% increased their Reading grade by at least one level
- 92% of teachers surveyed reported students improved in completing homework and academic performance
- 93% of students surveyed reported they learned things in the program that helped them do better in school
- Supplemental Educational Services provided to 27 students

### **Dropout Prevention Program/Action for Success**

#### **Services Provided:**

- Program at Cedar Grove Middle, Leland Middle, and Shallotte Middle Schools; part time at Waccamaw School (grades 6-8)
- Case management of students with multiple risk factors for dropping out of school (poor grades, low End of Grade test scores, behavioral issues, frequent disciplinary referrals, poor attendance, and retention)
- Success Coaches design a service plan for both the student and parents for resource linkage
- Provide multiple layers of interventions such as Academic Tutoring, Conflict Resolution/Anger Management Workshops, Individual and Family Counseling, Service Learning Projects, Mentoring, and Parent Engagement

#### **Measures of Success 2010-2011:**

- 145 students case managed and served through Action for Success Program
- Students received services totaling over 580 hours of tutoring from certified tutors, over 245 hours of counseling from licensed counselors, over 25 hours of life skills/conflict resolution classes, 49 one on one mentors
- 58% of the students who scored below grade level on the EOG Math test in 2010, showed more than one year's growth on the 2011 EOG Math test
- 52% of the students who scored below grade level on the EOG Reading test in 2010, showed more than one year's growth on the 2011 EOG Reading test
- 76% of the students who were referred for behavioral issues exhibited a desired changed in antisocial behavior as measured by classroom teacher surveys

### **Family Resource Centers and Parenting Education**

#### **Services Provided:**

- Community-based Family Resource Centers located in Ash and Leland offer coordinated and accessible community-based agency services and resources in education, health, and human services
- Parenting Education Program provides evidence-based/promising practices parenting education classes, workshops, one-on-one sessions, and support groups throughout the county with a service to both DSS/court mandated families and families wanting to learn more about family management

#### **Measures of Success 2010-2011:**

- Over 2,800 children and parents served through agency partnerships and services at the 2 Family Resource Centers: WIC (Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program) and other health services, GED and ESL classes, Sight for Student Vision Vouchers, Senior Citizen Services, computer/internet public access, emergency assistance, information and referral
- 281 adults and children participated in the Parenting Education Program; 81% of participating parents increased parenting knowledge/skills and decreased family conflict and disruption; 80% of participating parents increased their effective problem solving and setting clear expectations with their children

## Teen Court and Peer Court

### **Services Provided:**

- Juvenile court diversion program for eligible first-time offenders who are judged by their peers in a courtroom setting with sentencing to involve community service, restitution, and educational workshops on decision making skills, conflict resolution, and substance abuse (Peer Court addresses school-based offenses such as truancy and behavioral issues at Cedar Grove Middle, Shallotte Middle, and South Brunswick Middle Schools)
- Programs and positive role models that promote effective decision making skills, positive role models, self-respect, respect for authority, and good self-esteem
- Required parenting classes for parents of first-time offenders to help address family conflict and disruption, family management problems, and early/persistent behavior problems in school
- Student volunteers trained in various careers within the judicial system while engaged in service learning to provide exposure to career opportunities

### **Measures of Success 2010-2011:**

- 185 first-time offenders served (159 Teen Court, 26 Peer Court) with 96% successfully completing their sentence; offenders completed 1,295 hours of community service (1,059 hours Teen Court, 236 hours Peer Court)
- 91% of first-time offenders involved in Teen Court did not return to the juvenile justice system within one year after completion of their sentence
- 94 parents (74 Teen Court, 20 Peer Court) attended required parenting classes - 84% learned new skills in communication and family management
- 292 student volunteers (148 Teen Court, 144 Peer Court) trained and held positions of prosecutors, defense attorneys, bailiffs, jurors and clerks; 74 adult community volunteers assisted (34 Teen Court, 40 Peer Court)
- Information and assistance provided to 162 families in truancy court meetings held by Judge Tyler
- Juvenile court system saved over \$2,000 per case (\$370,000+) by diverting offenders to Teen Court and Peer Court

## Academic Scholarships

### **Services Provided:**

- Academic scholarships for Brunswick County graduating seniors through CIS and community donors

### **Measures of Success 2010-2011:**

- (22) \$1,000 CIS Scholarships awarded to graduating seniors from Brunswick County
- Brunswick County Academy: Tania Diaz (TBA)
- Early College High School: Haylee Jones (Meredith College)
- North Brunswick High School: Tori Colvin (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill); Barbara Graham (Meredith College); Tylan Kelly (Southeastern Community College); Alexia Shank (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill); Logan Shipman (TBA)
- South Brunswick High School: Taylor Brogan (East Carolina University); Elizabeth Hewett (Western Carolina University); Courtney Pierce (Appalachian State University); Mackensie Pless (TBA); Kyle Reschly (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill); Hailey Tippet (East Carolina University)
- West Brunswick High School: Bryan Anstead (East Carolina University); Brandon Blackwell (TBA); Donisha Bowens (TBA); Elizabeth Cheatham (Brunswick Community College); Naquasha Hill (North Carolina Central University); Esly Nagai Nunez-Cornejo (TBA); Joseph Perry (East Carolina University); Jim Van Nguyen (North Carolina State University)
- Teen Court Student Volunteer: Jocelyn Frink (University of North Carolina at Pembroke)

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**Communities In Schools of Brunswick County, Inc.**  
**2010-2011 Summary Statistics**

*The following programs are made possible through many valuable community partnerships.*

**Adopt A School and Volunteer Program**

- 307 volunteer workshop participants
- 512 one-on-one volunteer tutors
- 1,462 students tutored/mentored one-on-one
- 19,978 one-on-one volunteer hours reported by schools
- 226 Adopt A School partnerships
- \$143,455 value of donations from Adopt A School partners to Brunswick County Schools

**After School Programs/Summer Camps**

- 479 students served in after school programs
- 131 scholarships provided
- 69 students performing below grade level received tutoring services
- 27 students received Supplemental Educational Services

**Dropout Prevention Program – Action for Success**

**Cedar Grove Middle, Leland Middle, Shallotte Middle, and Waccamaw Schools**

- 145 at-risk students case managed at 4 schools
- Over 580 hours of tutoring from a certified teacher
- Over 245 hours of counseling from a licensed counselor
- Over 25 hours of life skills/conflict resolution guidance classes
- 49 one on one mentors

**Family Resource Centers (Leland and Waccamaw)**

- Over 2,800 children/parents received services through agency partnerships and services at 2 FRC's
- Services such as WIC, food stamp applications, GED and ESL classes, Senior Citizen Services, emergency assistance, information and referral

**Parenting Education Program**

- 111 parents and children served through 7 series of 12-week Parenting Education classes (6 in English, 1 in Spanish)
- 80 parents served in small group Parenting Education workshops
- 9 parents served in one-on-one Parenting Education sessions
- 81 parents and children served through 3 Parenting Support Groups

**Teen Court/Peer Court**

- 185 first-time offenders served
- 292 student volunteers
- 74 adult volunteers
- 94 parents attended parenting classes
- Juvenile court system saved over \$2,000 per case (\$370,000+) by diverting offenders to Teen and Peer Court

**Academic Scholarships**

- 22 \$1,000 academic scholarships awarded to high school seniors

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## **Communities In Schools of Brunswick County, Inc. Program Participant Success Stories for 2010-11**

**ADOPT A SCHOOL and VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:** Mr. Jim and Carlos read together all year. Carlos never showed much enthusiasm for reading or for anything else. He never said much, just did as he was told. Mr. Jim often had to coax Carlos to talk or do more than nod his head yes or no.

At the end of the year, however, he excitedly said, "Mr. Jim, Mr. Jim, because you worked with me all year I am going to the next grade! Will you come to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade with me Mr. Jim?" Mr. Jim told said it was the first time he'd seen glee and delight in Carlos' eyes.

**AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM:** (Letter written by Laura Saunders, a parent) For the past three years my son has had the great good fortune to attend Communities In Schools Summer Camp, held at various elementary schools in Brunswick County, N.C., recently with assistance from Brunswick County Parks and Recreation. These camps offer an incredible yet affordable summer experience for children in a caring, safe and supportive environment, with the objective of keeping them learning and staying in school. The kids participate in all sorts of activities together, from arts and crafts and sports, to field trips and hands-on tutoring.

My son had never been accepted at a summer camp until I called Communities In Schools. My sweet, beautiful son Jackson is autistic. Although considered "high functioning," Jackson has outstanding receptive skills, but very poor expressive ones. This means that although he understands most of what is said to him, he usually cannot manage to tell others what he thinks or feels. Frequently Jackson is anxious and depressed, and exhibits self-injurious behaviors because of his inability to communicate. However, for the past three summers he has told me loudly and clearly (and frequently and amazingly sometimes in complete sentences - a true rarity), that he loves CIS Summer Camp.

Thank you CIS, Brunswick County Parks & Recreation, the National Inclusion Project and the wonderful, loving summer camp staff. You know Jackson would thank you himself, if only he could.

**DROPOUT PREVENTION PROGRAM/ACTION FOR SUCCESS:** Courtney was charged with a misdemeanor larceny in March of 2010. She was a very defiant and angry 6th grader who would not listen to anyone, including her mother. To say that Courtney and her Success Coach clashed would be an understatement. But to her credit she would continue to go by her Success Coach's office and they would have long conversations about her behavior and how much the teachers disliked her attitude in the classroom. They talked about choices and the fact that her negative behavior would only bring more negative consequences her way.

During her 7th grade year, they had many more conversations. It seemed as though, she was not as angry, but would continue to periodically do self-destructive things. Her grades improved and she began playing sports. She went out for the basketball team, although she was not a very good player. Because her Success Coach was also the basketball coach, he put her on the team to try and help her with self esteem and working with others. There were times she would not listen and would say "I can't do it", but her Success Coach pushed her hard. In the end she became a better basketball player and her attitude drastically changed for the better. Her grades shot up and negative reports from teachers stopped.

Courtney was asked to speak at our local Juvenile Crime Prevention Council meeting in June on the effects that Peer Court and the Action for Success program had made in her life. She did an amazing job speaking with the group and we have heard nothing but wonderful reviews. Upon her return to school on that day, she went directly to her Success Coach along with her mother and was very proud of herself.

Up until the last day of school, Courtney continued to pop into her Success Coach's office with a big smile and always left a short message. The last one read, "I love you a lot and you are awesome, and you were the best coach ever, and you're a school adult when you need to be, but you are most definitely by far my best friend when I need one." We can't wait to see her accomplishments for 8th grade.

**FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS:** (Letter written to Leland Family Resource Center) On behalf of Pine Valley Baptist Church, I want to thank you for the opportunity to participate in your clothes donation program during your August giveaway. We organize an annual mission trip to the mountains near Beckley, West Virginia. This area of the country was supported by the coal mining industry but that was shut down many years ago due to environmental concerns and subsequently, the area is poverty-stricken and most of the residents have little if anything. Collected items are delivered during the month of November each year.

My parents and I learned of your clothes giveaway program recently from Vintage Values and we decided to check it out. What a blessing. We joined others collecting from the mounds of clothes available and loaded our car to capacity, collecting coats, jeans, slacks, sweaters, tops, shoes, underwear, infant wear, and other items until we almost had no room in the car for us. I would add that your staff was professional and friendly as they shared that the remainder of the clothing would be “recycled” to other areas multiple times so others could also be blessed. We were very impressed.

We at Pine Valley Baptist Church thank you again for allowing us to collect so much to send to West Virginia. We’re considering visiting again during your September and October scheduled giveaways to concentrate on children’s items to supplement those already washed, packed, and ready to go. May your program be blessed as you bless others!

**PARENTING EDUCATION:** Providing participants with valuable information and helping them to use it to make better choices as parents is certainly one of the main goals of a parent facilitator. Being able to make a personal connection with the parents while presenting the material is always welcomed. It was this type of connection that led this participant to success.

Catherine, a single mom, attended parenting classes two years ago. She had been referred by DSS as her two boys were in foster care. Catherine was the model participant, always punctual, prepared for class, and eager to ask questions while taking part in all discussions. She would voice her frustrations after weekly visitations with her boys, as she found it difficult to try the recommended strategies on a regular basis since she only saw her children for a short time. Although this was problematic, she continued to attend classes, read the weekly material, and at times would report small successes.

Towards the end of the 12-week program Catherine came to class extremely upset. There was a court date that morning and although she expected to be told she would be able to start having unsupervised visits with her boys that was not the case. The parent facilitators encouraged her to keep a positive outlook and to persevere. Catherine completed the 12-week Incredible Years program and was proud to receive a Certificate of Completion. At the end of class, she thanked the parent facilitators and made the comment, “I have to be honest with you, sometimes I only came to class because of you!”

Months later Catherine showed up at the beginning of another series of parenting classes. She brought a friend and encouraged her to sign up for classes saying, “These are the women I told you about. They really listen and don’t judge you.”

Over a year later the parent facilitator was scheduled to present a parent workshop at a local elementary school. While setting up the workshop she heard a familiar voice. There was Catherine. She gave the facilitator a big hug and said, “I came tonight because I saw your name on the flyer. I’d like you to meet my boys!”

At the conclusion of the workshop Catherine pulled the parent facilitator aside and asked if she would be able to repeat the Incredible Years program now that she had custody of her boys. She then said with a smile, “I remember you always believed in me, even when I didn’t believe in myself at times. That’s what kept me going. You were right. I didn’t give up and now I have my boys!” Catherine and her boys are scheduled to begin classes again.

**TEEN COURT/PEER COURT:** Teen Court works with student volunteers and student first-time offenders. We are not only proud of the progress our first-offenders make by going through the program, but we also a great deal of growth in our student volunteers.

Beth Crocker and John Nawara have served as both Prosecuting Attorneys and Defense Attorneys in Teen Court. They each volunteered for all four years of high school and were awarded scholarships by the Brunswick County Bar Association for their outstanding participation. They went on to attend and graduate college, Beth from UNC-Wilmington with a degree in Criminal Justice and John from the University of Notre Dame. The story does not end here. Beth and John have both gone on to be the first CIS Teen Court Student Volunteers who have also graduated from Law School – Beth from North Carolina Central University and John from the University at Louisville. We are so proud of these students and the fact that they both cite participating in Teen Court as a key to their success!

**ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS:** CIS provided 22 (\$1,000) academic scholarships for Brunswick County graduating seniors.

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09/12/11