

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Vectren/CenterPoint Energy Grants \$25,000 to CIS of Indiana to Remove Student Barriers

Partnership supports efforts to remove student barriers, surround students with support, and build school and community relationships

May 2021

CenterPoint Energy Foundation awarded a \$25,000 contribution in support of Communities In Schools of Indiana. CIS of Indiana works both within and beyond school walls to surround students who need support most with resources. By providing students with needed support during these challenging times, students are empowered to achieve both in school and life, in spite of the circumstances.

“When we look at the landscape of the communities we serve, most of which have been hit hardest by the pandemic and economic circumstances, we know that our current students and so many more need the services of CIS to not only level the playing field for them but also empower our students to reach higher in life,” said Executive Director, x. We are grateful for the support of Vectren/CenterPoint Energy. This gift will help us further our mission.”

In the face of this crisis, CIS continues to help students re-engage in school by meeting student academic challenges and basic needs, including building relationships and supporting social emotional challenges students faced during the pandemic.

Site coordinators work with schools and individual students to build strong relationships and support school success. Site coordinators also provide life skills supports by helping students, especially those with social and emotional challenges build strategies in adjusting to their “new normal” during this time of uncertainty.

CIS of Indiana currently serves over 37,000 students throughout the state and provides intensive one-on-one support to over 1,200 students in 28 schools.

Communities In Schools builds relationships in schools and communities through an evidence-based program model. CIS coordinators are assigned a school site to collaborate with school leaders, teachers, and community providers to identify challenges students face in class or beyond school walls and coordinate community services. These efforts bring outside resources into schools and students’ homes. From immediate needs such as food and clothing to more complex ones such as life skills coaching, CIS does whatever it takes to help students succeed.

CenterPoint Energy serves the energy needs of more than \$7 million customers across the country. As a community catalyst, the CenterPoint Energy Foundation supports local communities within its territories. The support of CIS of Indiana received will directly support Tippecanoe and Monroe counties.