

## Introduction

*The National Center for Community Schools is a practice-based technical assistance center that builds the capacity of schools, districts and community partners to organize their human and financial resources around student success. Our expertise draws on 24 years of experience operating community schools in New York City and on 22 years of national and international technical assistance. Since our inception in 1994, we have provided training, consultation and other forms of support to nearly all of the country's major community school initiatives. Our highly qualified team consists of educators, social workers and public policy experts who understand both the strategic and operational aspects of community schools.*

## Our Clients (2012-2016)

**ABC (Albuquerque-Bernalillo County) Community School Partnership:** Through periodic on-site consultations, trainings and public presentations as well as regular electronic consultation, we have helped the ABC Community School Partnership learn about and begin implementing the community schools strategy in several Albuquerque elementary schools.

**Alameda County (CA):** NCCS partnered with the Alameda County Health Department to conduct a series of briefings on community schools for multiple groups of stakeholders.

**Austin Voices for Youth and Education:** NCCS assisted this community schools effort by presenting on community schools at the Austin (TX) Voices for Youth and Education annual meeting and by providing training and consultation to their staff team and community partners.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of America:** NCCS worked with a team of consultants to write the elementary and high school curricula for B&GCA's *Summer Brain Gain* program, which was piloted in Clubs across the country during the summer of 2013. We renewed our partnership in 2015-6 when NCCS was invited to develop a training program for Clubs across the country on strengthening their programs for teens.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Hartford (CT):** After becoming acquainted with NCCS through our community schools work in Hartford, in 2013 BGCH asked NCCS to provide consulting services around three inter-related issues: improving program quality, building staff capacity and addressing issues of member retention.

**Broome County (NY):** NCCS is supporting a collaborative multi-district effort to develop community schools through a state-funded Promise Zone initiative. Our work involves helping the multiple stakeholders develop a shared understanding of the community schools strategy and building the skills of the community school coordinators.

**Charles Stewart Mott Foundation:** NCCS is assisting the Flint Public Schools to reinvigorate community education in the City of Flint (MI); and is supporting the efforts of the State of Michigan to institute community schools statewide.

**Chicago Public Schools:** NCCS has reengaged with Chicago's Community School Initiative—the country's largest—after assisting with the development of the initiative in 2002. Over the past several years, we have delivered training on several topics and provided consultation and coaching to the initiative's leaders. In a related effort, we continue to support the work of the University of Chicago in preparing social workers to serve as community school coordinators. In May 2015, NCCS partnered with the Chicago Community Schools Initiative to offer a Community Schools Fundamentals conference.

**Children and Families First (Delaware):** Building on our earlier work to help Children and Families First, a large social service organization in Wilmington, establish three community schools in the Christina school district, more recently we assisted the agency with its collective impact work in Wilmington and expanding their community schools to the Red Clay and Seabrook school districts.

**Cleveland Metropolitan School District:** After CMSD identified community “wraparound” schools as a preferred reform strategy in its district improvement plan, NCCS partnered with the district to brief senior leadership, consulted with the initiative’s steering committee, offered a “boot camp” and follow-up training for site coordinators and assisted with evaluation and fundraising. Now in its third year, this initiative has expanded to 16 schools through a strong partnership with the United Way of Greater Cleveland.

**Coalition for Community Schools:** NCCS served as a technical assistance partner with the Coalition’s W.K. Kellogg-funded *Linkages* Project, a three-year effort to connect early childhood systems to community school systems in selected locations; and is participating in *Mind in the Making*, a collaborative project between the Coalition and the Families and Work Institute.

**Columbia College Chicago:** NCCS provided training for the principals and directors of the three Chicago community schools that are funded through the Federal Full-Service Community Schools grant recently awarded to Columbia College’s Center for Community Arts Partnership.

**Connecticut State Department of Education:** NCCS was invited to assist school districts across the state of Connecticut to understand and address their chronic absence challenges, and to learn how to forge effective school-community partnerships.

**Detroit Public Schools:** With support from the Kresge Foundation, NCCS is advising the district on its efforts to create a community schools initiative in its lowest-performing schools, using a lead agency model. The district is partnering with its County Department of Human Services and currently has 21 new community schools in its initiative.

**Erie County BOCES:** NCCS staff helped plan and implement a two-day session on chronic absence for staff from the Buffalo Public Schools and their community partners.

**Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation:** Three members of the NCCS team provided intensive training and consultation to the district and its partners in early 2012, addressing such issues as parent engagement, academic enrichment and school-community partnerships.

**Family League of Baltimore:** NCCS is helping this citywide intermediary organization to build the capacity of its lead agency partners as well as to design and implement an intensive summer institute for all its community schools partners.

**Florida International University (Miami, FL):** In 2011, NCCS assisted FIU to develop its first university-assisted community school in the Liberty City neighborhood of Miami. Based on the solid results in Northwestern High School and a good return on investment, FIU asked NCCS to assist in the development of a second site in the Overton neighborhood of Miami.

**Ford Foundation:** Working closely with the Foundation’s Program Officer on their More and Better Learning Time initiative, NCCS offered technical assistance to three national sites: Denver; Los Angeles; and Connecticut.

**Good Shepherd Services:** NCCS is a subcontractor to GSS for a United Way of New York City Attendance Improvement and Dropout Prevention (AIDP) Capacity Building grant. NCCS provides training and coaching services to 58 school/community-based organization partnerships, focusing on supporting students and families around Common Core State Standards, effective use of data, implementing effective attendance improvement strategies and creating sustainability plans.

**Hartford Community Schools:** NCCS provides assistance to all three levels of the Hartford Community Schools—consultation to the leadership team (Mayor, Superintendent, lead investors); ongoing training and consultation for the school site teams (principals and CS directors); and guidance and support for the Hartford Partnership for Student Success.

**Hartford Foundation for Public Giving:** The Foundation asked NCCS to consult on the development of its K-12 grant-making strategy and, subsequently, to provide assistance to HFPG grantees on school-community partnerships issues.

**Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation:** The Paterson Public Schools Community Schools 2.0 project enables NCCS to expand the scope of its previous technical assistance to five community schools by providing a targeted focus on reducing chronic absenteeism in the early grades (K-2), as well as support for the community schools’ lead agencies (and those organizations looking to become lead agencies for new community schools in the District) around sustainability planning.

**JPMorgan Chase Foundation:** Working closely with the Foundation’s national staff and their regional Community Relations Officers, NCCS has assisted more than a dozen sites to create one or more community schools. Sites in this initiative include: Denver; Miami; Orange and Paterson, NJ; and several cities and districts in New York State (Brooklyn, Far Rockaway, Flushing and Staten Island in New York City and Brentwood, Freeport and Westbury on Long Island).

**Kent School Services Network (Kent County, MI):** NCCS has worked closely with the County Administrator’s office and its many county- and city-level partners since the launch of the Network in 2006. The initiative, which includes community schools in the city of Grand Rapids and a number of nearby suburban districts, has grown to 16 schools; NCCS has provided training, technical assistance and consultation every step of the way. NCCS helped develop capacity at the local school-level and assisted initiative leaders with developing a multi-tiered governance structure to lead and manage the work.

**Lancaster (PA):** Working with the Lancaster Education Foundation and the Lancaster Public Schools, NCCS has provided consultation and training on a variety of topics, including sustainability and the role of lead agencies in community schools.

**Lincoln (NE) Public Schools:** NCCS facilitated a strategic planning process that involved a community-wide team of key stakeholders who advised the district on strategies for deepening and expanding its 15-year-old community schools initiative. This work also involved preparation of a written plan to help guide the district’s decision-making as it considers moving from its 25 current community schools to a possible whole-district approach involving 62 schools.

**Memphis (TN):** A visionary principal and a supportive Board conducted effective outreach to community partners and launched the city’s first community school in September 2013. NCCS provided technical assistance and participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony.

**Mercer Street Friends:** NCCS is supporting the development of an initial community school in Trenton (NJ), which received a grant through the Federal Full-Service Community Schools program at the U.S. Department of Education.

**New York City Department of Education and Mayor’s Office:** Beginning in 2010, NCCS worked with the Mayor’s Task Force on Truancy, Chronic Absence and School Engagement to develop the *Every Student, Every Day* Initiative designed to reduce chronic absence and to provide direct support to 100 New York City public schools that participated in the successful Initiative. Currently, NCCS is supporting the NYCDOE in sharing best practices on reducing chronic absenteeism, gleaned from *Every Student, Every Day*, with schools all across New York City.

**New York City Department of Education/21<sup>st</sup> Century CLC Regional Technical Assistance Center:** NCCS is the programmatic partner in the NYCDOE’s five-year contract with the New York State Education Department to operate the New York City Regional Technical Assistance Center for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center grantees.

**New York University Metro Center:** NCCS staff regularly conducts workshops on school-community partnerships, parent engagement and other topics for districts cited for disproportionality by New York State Education Department.

**Orange (NJ) Public Schools:** NCCS is developing the capacity of the Orange (NJ) Public Schools and their lead partner, Montclair State University, to implement the community schools strategy in several schools that are funded through the Federal Full-Service Community Schools program of the U.S. Department of Education.

**Ossining (NY) Public Schools:** NCCS provided consultation to district leadership and on-site assistance to individual schools, helping them conduct needs assessments and strategic planning activities.

**Paterson (NJ) Public Schools:** NCCS partners with the district, three lead agencies and the Paterson Education Fund to deepen and sustain the work of five community schools that are part of the Federal Full-Service Community Schools program of the U.S. Department of Education.

**Public Interest Projects—Atlantic Philanthropies Elev8 Initiative (New Mexico, Chicago, Baltimore and Oakland):** After providing initial training for the four Elev8 sites at the launch of this major national initiative, NCCS was invited in 2012 to provide training and consultation to the sites on sustainability.

**Rockland 21 C:** NCCS has helped this county-wide collaborative develop and sustain its Family Resource Centers by making presentations, providing training and facilitating strategic planning meetings.

**San Francisco Unified School District:** NCCS assisted the District in utilizing its School Improvement Grant funds to implement a community schools strategy in 11 SIG schools; and, subsequently, we consulted with the District as it expanded the community schools strategy district- and city-wide.

**Stuart Foundation:** NCCS provided sustainability planning institutes for community school initiatives in CA and WA. This work built on an earlier Stuart grant in which NCCS partnered with the John Gardner Center at Stanford University to co-create and implement the Academy for Community Schools Development, a three-year institute that involved many California communities as they created or expanded community school initiatives.

**Tulsa Area Community Schools Initiative (TACSI):** Established by the Human Services Planning Council in 2007, TACSI currently encompasses 31 community schools across two school districts—Tulsa and Union Public Schools. NCCS has provided training for their resource coordinators since the initiative’s inception and will be working with site-level teams as well as the TACSI Resource Center staff in 2014.

**United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County:** NCCS offered a keynote presentation and several workshops at the GradNation Summit sponsored by the United Way of Asheville (NC) and Buncombe County at which they launched a community schools initiative focused on middle schools.

**United Way of the Bay Area (CA):** NCCS partnered with the United Way of the Bay Area to offer a Community Schools Fundamentals Conference in December 2013 for 200 stakeholders from the United Way’s seven-country service area.

**United Way of Greater Toledo:** NCCS has supported the Schools as Community Hubs initiative by building the local and systemic capacity of this United Way’s network of schools and partners. Working closely with the Cincinnati Community Learning Center Institute, NCCS created customized study visits for Toledo initiative leaders and Hub Directors. NCCS also initiated a Theory of Change process to facilitate the articulation of goals, outcomes and indicators for the Toledo work.

**United Way of New York City:** NCCS partners with the United Way of New York City to provide an array of technical assistance, including training and consultation, to the New York City community schools expansion, which was initiated by Mayor Bill de Blasio in 2014.

**United Way of Salt Lake City:** NCCS has provided long-term consultation and other forms of technical assistance to the United Way of Salt Lake as they have launched and developed their community learning centers and cradle-to-career initiatives over the past five years. As the needs of the initiative have evolved, so has NCCS’s provision of services: we have helped develop local capacity of lead partners to partner effectively with schools, provided support on policy development, and assisted on the creation of a new strategic direction for the United Way.

**U.S. Department of Education:** With funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, NCCS provided workshops and webinars for USDOE’s Full-Service Community Schools grantees.

**Vancouver, British Columbia:** NCCS has provided trainings, consultation and presentations to the Burnaby School District over several years. Most recently, in February 2016, NCCS offered a keynote presentation on community schools to all the district’s staff, which included more than 2,000 individuals.

**YMCA of New York City:** NCCS is helping this large multi-service organization establish nine community schools in New York City, building on its extensive school-based Virtual Y work over the past decade.