

CHILDREN INCORPORATED

FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER



Left: Liz Collins, current CEO; Right: Ron Carter, former CEO

Exciting Changes at Children Incorporated

I am delighted to reach out to you as the new CEO of Children Incorporated. It is a profound privilege to lead this organization, which has been at the forefront of supporting children in need across the globe. Your unwavering commitment and generosity have been instrumental in our mission, and I want to personally express my gratitude for your support.

As I step into this role, my goal is to build upon the strong foundation established by Ron Carter, the staff, and our volunteer coordinators. I am not new to Children Incorporated and have most recently had the honor of serving as Board Chair for the past ten years. Knowing the organization as I do, I am committed to honoring that special, personal touch that is our trademark.

Your contributions make a significant difference in the lives of countless children,

providing them with essential resources and opportunities for a brighter future. Together, we can continue this important work, fostering hope and creating lasting change.

I look forward to engaging with you as we move forward, sharing updates on our initiatives, and exploring new ways to enhance our collective impact. This is a partnership. Thank you once again for your dedication and support. Together, we can change lives and inspire hope for the future – not just in the children, but each other.

Warm regards,

Liz Collins

CEO, Children Incorporated



Left to Right: Allen Richardson (Principal of the Year), Renée Kube and Elizabeth Collins of Children Incorporated, Dr. Rustin Lewis, Executive Director of Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital; DC Council Chair Phil Mendelson; CISNCAP Board Chair Margaret Vassilikos; and Impact Awardees John and Ann Gardner.

Celebrating Partnership and Purpose

Children Incorporated Honored by Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital

In April 2025, *Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital* (CISNCAP) celebrated a powerful milestone—**20 years of service** to Washington, D.C. students. At the heart of this celebration was a shared commitment: When schools support the whole child and their families, and build strong partnerships, then those children will have improved learning outcomes.

To commemorate this incredible achievement, CISNCAP hosted a special 20th Anniversary Reception where they honored the many individuals and organizations that help make their work possible. Among those recognized were three outstanding partners whose dedication has left a lasting impact on local schools:

John and Ann Gardner, *Impact Award*
Principal Allen Richardson, *Principal of the Year*
Children Incorporated, *Community Partner of the Year*

We are humbled and honored that Children Incorporated was chosen for this meaningful award, especially during such a landmark celebration.



Accepting on our behalf was Liz Collins, our then Board Chair and current CEO, accompanied by U.S. Programs Director Renée Kube, who both attended the reception in Washington, D.C.

“Our missions are deeply aligned—and through our shared commitment, we’ve seen how caring adults can change the course of a child’s life.”
— Liz Collins, CEO

Liz took the stage to accept the award, and she spoke from the heart:

“Children Incorporated has been honored to partner with Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital for so many years. Your dedicated site coordinators help ensure that our resources directly benefit the children we serve together. Our missions are deeply aligned—and through our shared commitment, we’ve seen how caring adults can change the course of a child’s life.”

The Community Partner of the Year award will hold a proud place in our office—and in our hearts—as a reminder of what we can achieve when we come together for kids.



Visayans Volunteer Center: *Hope in Action*

The Visayans Center was the initial place of support for children on the CI program. This small center, built in the city of Tacloban, was a big effort to accommodate volunteers who would come to this area to provide assistance to this small and poor community.

With time, more and more children wanted to participate in Children Incorporated and benefit from the support provided. We came together to purchase a larger piece of land in the area and sparked the dream of a larger Center—a place with a library, soup kitchen, volunteer space, and rooms dedicated to education and connection.

With the collaboration of initial small savings, and *the generosity of CI sponsors*, construction was initiated for a new Center in August of 2023. And after much effort, some pains and frustrations, positive effort, and the unwavering assistance of Children Incorporated, construction was finished and the building opened in August 2025!

The other two Centers affiliated to CI are in different nearby locations, but will also utilize this new Center building for functions and further support.



COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS Creating New Opportunities



During the evening, Dr. Rustin Lewis, Executive Director of CISNCAP, shared reflections on the organization's journey. He spoke passionately about the importance of holistic support for students and families, and how strong community partnerships—like the one between CISNCAP and Children Incorporated—create real and lasting change. Since 2008, Children Incorporated has been proud to serve students in our nation's capital—where, despite the city's prominence, one in four children still lives in poverty. These children, full of potential, deserve every opportunity to thrive—and we are honored to play a role in supporting them.

Our Hope In Action Fund has helped meet urgent needs, from disaster relief to providing tablets for students with extended medical absences. Most recently, through our Higher Education Program, a sponsored student was awarded a grant to attend Catholic University of America after graduating from one of our partner schools. Together with Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital and the generosity of our donors, we are creating brighter futures.

ATTENDANCE IMPACT

The direct benefit of consistent sponsorship

Thanks to our dedicated volunteer coordinators, we have an incredible insight into the long-term impact of Children Incorporated. What is the biggest difference they see?

A dramatic increase in school attendance! Our data shows that consistent sponsor support leads directly to more time in the classroom and better academic progress.

philippines

Improved Attendance: Sponsored students have maintained over a 90% attendance rate.

Academic Progress: Many are showing marked improvements in literacy, numeracy, and overall academic performance.

Comprehensive Support: Students received essential school supplies, uniforms, shoes, daily meals, and access to mentorship.

Personal Growth: Several have taken part in life skills workshops, leadership training, and extracurricular programs.



"Your support helps me dream bigger. I want to become a police so I can give back to my community."

Jonathon, 14 years old



kentucky

Kenny is a kind and determined young man. Sadly his home life is far from what any child should have to experience, and though home life offers little support, he's committed to making school a priority;

He dreams of becoming an engineer and moving to New York City.

Before being enrolled in Children Incorporated, he struggled with not having enough uniforms or school supplies. One of his biggest wishes was to have something as simple as an alarm clock to help him make it to school on time.

Thanks to his sponsor, Kenny received just that. Now, he proudly wakes himself up each morning, attends school regularly, and carries himself with newfound confidence. His dreams are no longer distant wishes—they're goals he's working toward every day.

Thank you for believing in their future. Your generosity extends far beyond financial support—it brings dignity, opportunity, and lasting change. Every photo and story we share tells a story of persistence, growth, and potential. Stories made possible because of you.



Helene: *One Year Later*

Remembering the hardship and resiliency of those affected

It has been a year since Hurricane Helene caused massive and devastating destruction to areas of North Carolina and Kentucky. Eleven of our affiliated sites were hit in some capacity by Helene, four of them were intensely affected. Families who were already struggling lost everything; it was a crucial time for Children Incorporated to be involved.



Through our Hope In Action Fund, we were able to send immediate resources. Through our Helene Relief Fund, over **\$31,000** went to directly assist children and their families in our affected areas. We purchased clothing and distributed food, and families were given hope.

Several sponsors generously donated additional gifts, enabling us to provide long-term assistance. Throughout the winter, our volunteer coordinators received valuable resources to support program participants who still faced monumental hurdles on their path back to stability.

Every dollar donated by sponsors and donors went straight to meeting urgent needs during and after the destruction. Now, a year later, we remember that harrowing time with gratitude for those who gave their time, money, and care to support all those affected.



The Appalachian region, though hard hit, remains strong.

