WPXI 11 CARES and Dollar Bank Partner with Communities In Schools To Support Local Students

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Become a Hometown Hero!

Support Virtual Learning for Pittsburgh's Children and Youth

PITTSBURGH (September 10, 2020) – How do we help Pittsburgh's children and youth continue to thrive during this season of disruption? "We need some of our hometown heroes to step up and help. Schools nor families can do this alone. Everyone needs to find a way to pitch in and help – whether you have children in your household or not..." said Bridget Clement, Executive Director for Communities In Schools, Pittsburgh – Allegheny County.

That is why WPXI Cares and Dollar Bank are partnering with Communities In Schools, Pittsburgh – Allegheny County to provide the virtual learning support for the children and youth of Pittsburgh.

"We are proud to team up with Community in Schools and 11 Cares to help provide local students and teachers with the assistance they need to continue to learn and work remotely," said Frank Buonomo, Vice President of Public Affairs for Dollar Bank. "It is imperative that we are diligent in working together to support our communities to ensure all students have equal resources to support their education."

From October 4th through 31st Pittsburghers are invited to go to <u>www.WPXI.com/11Cares</u> to help provide personal protection equipment (PPE) for students and teachers, funding for community learning hubs that are supporting foster care students and families of frontline workers who cannot be at home for remote learning, and resources for a virtual mentoring program that will provide a mentor to Pittsburgh middle and high school students for a weekly virtual lunch. You can also sign up to become a virtual mentor.

By donating or signing up to become a mentor, you can help some of Pittsburgh's most vulnerable students stay in school while we all work together to move through the COVID-19 pandemic. You can go online to <u>donate</u> or **text your gift** by sending "**backtoschool**" to "**707070**" or text "**volunteer**" to "**412-924-5770**" to find out how to become a volunteer mentor.

Day-in and day-out, Pittsburgher's step up to make our neighborhoods and communities a better place – especially for our children and youth. The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented need particularly for our region's most vulnerable families and those whose household's depend on wages earned by frontline workers. But working together, not only will we get through this, we can help our children thrive.

Our work is based on the Communities In School national evidence-based model that believes children with chronic issues related to poverty and social discriminates do not have what they need to achieve in

school. We work with schools to address student and family needs by implementing and facilitating a host of programs and initiatives designed to increase capacity and bring needed resources into our schools. We meet students where they are, support their academic success, and position them to achieve in life.

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About Communities In Schools of Pittsburgh – Allegheny County

CISPAC is part of the Communities In Schools [®] network that ensures all students have what they need to stay in school and on a path to a brighter future. Working directly inside more than 2,500 schools and community sites across the country, we connect 1.62 million students to caring adults and community resources designed to help them succeed in school and life. With a proven mix of evidence-based practice and human capital, we do whatever it takes to empower kids to realize their full potential. To learn more about CISPAC, visit <u>www.cispac.org</u> or <u>https://www.facebook.com/cispittsburgh</u>. Follow us on Twitter @cispac