

PEORIA'S FULL SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

Initiative Established: 2006-2007, with Community Builders Foundation serving as Lead Agency of the initiative until August 2010.

Current Lead Agency: **Bradley University**, specifically its College of Education & Health Sciences and Institute for Principled Leadership

Designated Schools: Harrison Community Learning Center, Trewyn K-8, and Manual Academy

What is a Community School?

A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development, and community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Schools become centers of the community and are open to everyone – all day, every day, evenings and weekends.

The **ABC**'s of community schools are:

Align Out of school time with class learning +

Bring communities, families and schools together +

Coordinate resources for children and families = Success for Students, Families, Schools and Communities. (Source: Federation for Community Schools; <http://www.ilcommunityschools.org/>)

Community Partners Include but are not Limited to: Methodist Medical Center, Heart of Illinois United Way, Bradley University, Peoria Park District (including E.L.I.T.E.), Illinois Central College, Sylvan Learning Center, Extended Day, Education Station, Prime Time Computers, A+ Tutoring, Homework Mastery, South Side Mission, Downtown Rotary, Gifts in the Moment, Caterpillar Inc., Illinois Central College, Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic

Opportunity (“PCCEO”), University of Illinois School of Medicine, Workforce Development (Satellite Lab at Manual Academy)

State of Illinois/National Partners: Illinois Federation for Community Schools, Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation, Eisenhower Foundation

Program Highlights to Date:

- Between 2008-2010, received over \$65,000 in funding for: (a) a study that looked at the physical and mental health services at our three community schools, (b) programming, and (c) operational expenses
- Conducted 3 studies focusing on: (1) provision of mental/physical health services at our three community schools; (2) wellness and obesity; and (3) implementation of the model to date
- In 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, awarded \$175,000 by Heart of Illinois United Way to coordinate its in-school mental health program
- Restructured Advisory Council to include Working Committees focused on four priorities: Safety, Health, Stakeholder Engagement, and Data Collection/Evaluation
- Collaborated with Peoria School District 150 and the City of Peoria in the creation of the Mobile Parent Resource Center
- On August 4, 2011, awarded \$300,000 from the Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation for community schools, specifically hiring and training of Resource Coordinators