



## WRAPAROUND SERVICES HELP KIDS WIN IN SCHOOL AND BEYOND

Throughout Missouri, students go to school every day without their basic needs met, unprepared to learn. The achievement gap between high and low-income students and among minority students persists in Missouri and nationwide. According to 2017 testing data, black students scored 29 points lower and Hispanic students 18 points lower than their white peers on state standardized tests. Students eligible for free and reduced priced lunch, an indicator of low family income, scored 24 points lower than their peers who were not eligible.<sup>1</sup>

To address these educational disparities, policymakers and educational leaders have looked to wraparound services to help eliminate common barriers to academic success. By removing these barriers, schools can better prepare their students for academic success, post-secondary education, and careers.

Wraparound services are any services schools provide, beyond academic support, that aim to help students meet their basic needs and overcome barriers to academic achievement.<sup>2</sup> These services can include access to out-of-school time care and support; basic necessities, such as food, clothing, and hygiene resources; health and mental health care, including dental, vision, and counseling services; and other social services and family supports. Examples include high quality afterschool and summer learning programs; school-based health clinics; school resource coordinators who help families access resources; and year-round school-based meal programs.



Some critical features seen in most successful wraparound services models, “community schools,” or the “integrated student services”<sup>3</sup> models are:

- **School-Community partnerships are key** in leveraging resources to best meet the needs of students and the community. This means partnerships are forged between schools, other local and state government entities, non-profit organizations, and businesses to assess the needs of the community and best allocate resource and expertise to meet those needs.<sup>4</sup>
- **Wraparound systems are also data-driven** and rely on shared data and evaluation to assess effectiveness and reallocate resources as needed.
- **A dedicated resource coordinator at the school-level, district-level, or community-level** to serve as a liaison between students, families, and the resources they need is key in a successful wraparound system.

Wraparound services are not a catch-all solution to school improvement, but research shows that they are making a difference. By providing for students’ basic needs and addressing barriers to academic achievement, we can better ensure that students, teachers, and schools are prepared for success.

### Kids Win Missouri supports initiatives that encourage investment in and implementation of school-based wraparound services by:

- Encouraging policies that promote school-community partnerships
- Advocating for incentives for wraparound service in the MSIP-6
- Seeking out new opportunities to expand these programs

*For more information, visit [kidswinmissouri.org](http://kidswinmissouri.org).*

<sup>1</sup> The Nation’s Report Card, 2017 Mathematics State Snapshot Report: Missouri, Grade 4, Public Schools. <https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/asmt-naep-2017-math-grade-4-snapshot.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Colin A. Jones. *Uplifting the Whole Child: Using Wraparound Services to Overcome Social Barriers to Learning*. (August 14, 2011) [http://massbudget.org/report\\_window.php?loc=Uplifting\\_the\\_Whole\\_Child.html](http://massbudget.org/report_window.php?loc=Uplifting_the_Whole_Child.html)

<sup>3</sup> Kristin Anderson Moore and Carol Emig. *Integrated Student Supports: A Summary of the Evidence Base for Policymakers*. (Child Trends: February 2014) <https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/2014-05ISSWhitePaper3.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Martin J. Blank, Reuben Jacobson, and Atelia Melaville. *Achieving Results Through Community School Partnerships: How District and Community Leaders Are Building Effective, Sustainable Relationships*. (Center for American Progress: January 2012) <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED535652.pdf>