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CISPAC LAUNCHES NEW DRIVER'S ED PILOT PROGRAM IN STO-ROX

PITTSBURGH (March 22, 2021) –

Communities in Schools of Pittsburgh-Allegheny County (CISPAC), a leading provider of integrated education support services in Southwestern PA, is partnering with the Roy A. Hunt Foundation and the Cindy Cohen School of Driving to provide driver's education to the Sto-Rox community. Up to 20 students or recent graduates looking to establish a career in a high-demand trade will be invited to join this program and prepare for future success.

"A driver's license is crucial to many careers, but opportunities to learn are hard to find," according to CISPAC executive director, Bridget Clement. "Since schools no longer provide these opportunities within their curriculum, many families do not have the resources to make it happen for their teens." While many high demand positions like those found in the trades are ideal for high school graduates, most require a driver's license. **We hope this program will break down these barriers and empower students to launch a successful career in high demand trades.**

Enrollment in this program is an all-encompassing path to securing a license. **Over the course of six weeks, students will learn the theory of driving, receive behind-the-wheel training with certified instructors, and get chaperoned through license attainment.**

This pilot will be conducted in Sto-Rox where CISPAC, through our workforce development initiative Project Future, has worked with students and local business leaders for several years. Once the initial pilot program is complete, **CISPAC is hopeful to expand the program to more school districts throughout the greater Pittsburgh region.**

We will run 3-cohorts this year – spring, summer, and fall. **Interested students, recent graduates, and parents can find more information about the program and how to apply on our website www.CISPAC.org/DriversEd.** School and business leaders looking to partner with CISPAC on future workforce development initiatives can contact program director, Sara Berg at scberg@cispac.org.

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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 and our work, visit cispac.org.

CISPAC is a Sanctuary®-certified institution committed to deepening its understanding of trauma's impact on individuals, schools, and communities. CISPAC works actively to promote trauma sensitivity within our internal operation as well as in our work throughout the Greater Pittsburgh region.