

Tennessee Secretary of State  
Tre Hargett



Division of Business and Charitable Organizations  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 6th Floor  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1102

January 08, 2024

MEREDITH BENTON  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212 USA

**RE:** Registration to Solicit Funds for Charitable Purposes  
Organization Name: COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF TENNESSEE  
CO Number: CO20015  
Renewal Date: 12/31/2024

Dear MEREDITH BENTON :

Pursuant to the Tennessee Charitable Solicitations Act, T.C.A. § 48-101-501, *et seq.* the Tennessee Secretary of State has reviewed your application and is pleased to announce your organization's registration to solicit contributions has been **approved**.

The organization must maintain statutory compliance by submitting a renewal application and required fees on an annual basis. At that time you may be required to submit tax filings, financial statements, proof of IRS status, and other documents related to your organization and its fundraising activities. You can find additional information and submit additional filings online at <https://sos.tn.gov/charities>. The "CO" Number listed above will serve as your organization's charitable registration number and should be used when submitting any charitable filings or correspondence.

Please also be advised that if the organization's application or other provided information includes false, misleading or deceptive statements, appropriate action will be taken. Pursuant to the Tennessee Charitable Solicitations Act, a civil penalty of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) may be assessed for any violation.

Thank you for registering your organization and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Tre Hargett  
Secretary of State

**Tracking Number**  
**2023137346**

## **Application to Renew Registration of a Charitable Organization**

**Division of Business and Charitable Organizations**

**Department of State**

State of Tennessee

312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 6th Floor

Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Phone: 615-741-2555

Fax: 615-253-5173

sos.tn.gov/charities



Tre Hargett  
Secretary of State

CO Number: CO20015  
Filed: 12/21/2023 08:43 AM  
Tre Hargett  
Secretary of State

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### **Organization Information**

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**Legal Name of the Charitable Organization:** COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF TENNESSEE

**Legal entity type of the Organization:** Corporation

**Business Services Control Number:** 000697762

**FEIN:** 46-1196944

**CO Number:** CO20015

**Initial Registration Date:** 05/29/2013

**Renewal Date:** 12/31/2023

**Has your fiscal year ending month changed since your last renewal?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Fiscal Year Ending Month:** June

**When and where was the organization legally established**

**Date:** 10/11/2012

**Country:** USA

**City/State:** NASHVILLE, TN

**Has your Principal Office address changed since your last renewal?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Amended Principal Office Address**

1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138

NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA

**Has your Mailing address changed since your last renewal?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Amended Mailing Office Address**

1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138

NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA

**Contact Information for the Charitable Organization**

**Contact Name:** MEREDITH BENTON

**Telephone Number:** (615) 972-3051

**Email:** mbenton@cistn.org

**Website:** www.cistn.org

**Current names used by the charity organization**

**Do you need to modify other names that the charity solicits under?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Has the organization registered in any other state(s)?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Does the charity have other offices, chapters, branches, affiliates or a parent?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

**The category that best describes your organization**

B - Educational Institutions &amp; Related Activities

**The charitable purpose of the organization**

Our mission statement: To surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

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**Tax & Financial Information**

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**Has your tax exempt status changed since your last renewal?**☐ Yes ☒ No**Last Fiscal Year Start:** July 2022**Last Fiscal Year End:** June 2023**Type of 990 Tax Form Filed:** 990 (Long Form)**Gross Revenue**

Direct and Indirect Public Contributions	\$ 1,085,604.00
Government Grants	\$ 3,000,000.00
Program Service Revenue	\$ 712,930.00
Special Events and Activities	\$ 98,467.00
Gross Sales of Inventory	\$ 0.00
Other Revenue	\$ 276,422.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5,173,423.00</b>

**Expenses**

Total Program Expenses	\$ 3,371,174.00
Direct Expenses from Special Events	\$ 28,739.00
Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 0.00
Management and General Expenses	\$ 514,704.00
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 183,069.00
Other Expenses	\$ 0.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,097,686.00</b>

<b>Excess/Deficit For the Year</b> <b>(Total Revenue - Total Expenses)</b>	<b>\$ 1,075,737.00</b>
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**Changes in Net Assets/Fund Balances**

Net Assets/Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	\$ 4,604,811.00
Other Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances	\$ 0.00
Net Assets/Fund Balances	\$ 5,680,548.00
Total Liabilities at End of Year	\$ 10,724.00
Net Assets/Fund Balances at End of Year	\$ 5,680,548.00

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## Solicitation Information

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Have you been enjoined by any court from soliciting contributions?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Does your organization contract with or otherwise engage the services of any outside fundraising professional (such as a "professional fund-raiser," "paid solicitor," "fund raising counsel," or "commercial co-venturer")?

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Officer Information

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Do you need to modify the current officers?

☒ Yes ☐ No

List each officer, director, and trustee (at least 2 officers are required, and you must list officers who have or share the following titles: "Chief Financial Officer", "Custodian of Contributions", "Custodian of Final Distributions")

Andy Gattas  
8897 Forrest Ridge Cv  
Cordova, TN 38018, USA  
Title(s): Board Member

Brent Clark  
119 47th Ave. N  
Nashville , TN 37209, USA  
Title(s): Treasurer

Emily Van Allsburg  
895 Strouse Ave.  
Nashville, TN 37206, USA  
Title(s): Board Member

Ian Dinkins  
4820 Faimeade Ct.  
Nashville, TN 37218, USA  
Title(s): Secretary

Lee Ballew  
2905 23rd Ave. S  
Nashville, TN 37215, USA  
Title(s): Board Member

Mrs. MEREDITH BENTON  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA  
Title(s): Chief Executive Officer, Custodian of Contributions, Custodian of Final Distributions, Director

Sara Morrison  
830B Clayton Ave  
Nashville, TN 37204, USA  
Title(s): Board Member

Sara Beth Myers  
1615 Fatherland St  
Nashville, TN 37206, USA  
Title(s): Vice President

Tara Scarlett  
761 Darden Place  
Nashville, TN 37205, USA  
Title(s): President

JONATHAN FIELDS

1207 18TH AVENUE S.  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212  
Title(s): Board Member

JENNIFER WADE  
1207 18TH AVENUE S.  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212  
Title(s): Board Member

BARRY OLHAUSEN  
1207 18TH AVENUE S.  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212  
Title(s): Board Member

RACHEL TOMPKINS  
1207 18TH AVENUE S.  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212  
Title(s): Board Member

KATI LOHR  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA  
Title(s): Trustee

JOE BASS  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA  
Title(s): Trustee

SUSANNAH BERRY  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA  
Title(s): Trustee

KATHERINE LEE  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212, USA  
Title(s): Trustee

**Has any officer, director, manager, operator, or principal of the organization been the subject of an injunction, judgement, or administrative order or been convicted of a felony?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

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## Signature

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I certify that the statements in this registration statement and all supplemental forms, documents, and continuation sheets are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I (Chief Fiscal Officer, Treasurer, or Officer) certify, under penalty of perjury, that the above information is true and correct.

**Signed Electronically:** Meredith Benton

**Date:** 12/21/2023

**Title:** Chief Executive Officer

I certify that the statements in this registration statement and all supplemental forms, documents, and continuation sheets are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I (Chief Fiscal Officer, Treasurer, or Officer) certify, under penalty of perjury, that the above information is true and correct.

**Signed Electronically:** Tarryn Bell

**Date:** 12/21/2023

**Title:** Chief Fiscal Officer



Tre Hargett  
Secretary of State

**Division of Business and Charitable Organizations**

**Department of State**

State of Tennessee  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 6th Floor  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
Phone: 615-741-2555  
Fax: 615-253-5173  
sos.tn.gov/charities

**Date:** 12/19/2023

**Invoice:** 2023-11168

**Customer Information**

MEREDITH BENTON  
COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF TENNESSEE  
1030 16TH AVE S, FLOOR 2, #138  
NASHVILLE, TN 37212 , USA

Tracking Number	Description	Amount Paid
2023137346	CH Charitable Renewal	\$ 10.00
<b>Payment Details</b>		
	Fee Total:	\$ 10.00
	Payment Total:	\$ 10.00
	Amount Due:	\$ 0.00
	Refunded Amount:	\$ 0.00
<b>Payment Method</b>		
	Payment Type:	Credit Card
	Check/Confirmation Number:	3864470980