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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
**COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF PENNSYLVANIA EXPANDS PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT TRAINING OFFERINGS**

HARRISBURG, Pa. (July 3, 2023) – Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania (CISPA) is excited to announce four new professional development training opportunities to educate and empower those who work with youth: Building Trauma-Sensitive Schools, DEI 101, School Climate and Culture and Trauma 101. These new courses are joining the Youth Mental Health First Aid training that CISPA launched in March 2023.

As an organization dedicated to student success, CISPA recognizes the critical role that those who work with youth play in creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment. These professional development training opportunities aim to equip parents, teachers, caregivers, educators and other adults who work with kids with the knowledge, tools and strategies necessary to address the diverse needs of students effectively.

- Building Trauma-Sensitive Schools introduces all school and district staff to the concept of trauma-sensitive schools and includes examples of trauma-sensitive practices across six domains.
- DEI 101 is designed to help participants develop awareness, knowledge and skills for building a more inclusive working and learning environment.
- A positive school climate is critically related to school success. School Climate and Culture will teach participants what school climate and culture are, gain a better understanding of the importance of a positive school climate, learn how to engage school leadership and other stakeholders in its improvement, and will provide suggestions for leading an effective school climate improvement effort.
- Trauma 101 will provide participants with an overview of trauma, particularly in children. The course will review chronic and complex trauma and identify various types of traumatic experiences and trauma's impact on social, biological, psychological and cognitive functioning and development.

The courses are led by CISPA's Director of Learning and Innovation, Leyna Rozon, who was trained by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing and Lakeside Global Institute and has extensive experience working with young people.

"Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania is dedicated to sharing resources that foster resiliency and promote healing," said Rozon. "With these training opportunities, educators and youth-serving professionals will be better equipped to provide quality care and support for youth across the state and will make a lasting impact on our communities."

CISPA can provide customized training sessions both in person and virtually to fit the specific needs of any organization or group. Participants will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the program.

To learn more about these training opportunities and how they can benefit you and your team, visit <http://www.cisofpa.org/training-opportunities>. There, you will find detailed information about each program, including learning objectives, time commitments and training capacities.

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About Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania

Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania (CISPA) is an affiliate of the national Communities in Schools network, which operates in 25 states and the District of Columbia and serves more than 1.8 million youth annually. Communities in Schools' holistic approach addresses both the academic and nonacademic needs of students. Communities in Schools recognizes that if basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter are not met, children are unable to learn.