



# Manatee Elementary, A Community Partnership School

## The Challenge

Thousands of students attending Title I schools arrive with heavy baggage: **hunger, homelessness, poverty, violence, mental health struggles, illness and more.** They carry so much weight that they simply cannot focus on their education.

## The Solution: Community Partnership Schools

Community Partnership Schools provide support, services and solutions to help alleviate these burdens. As more weight is lifted, students find the balance to focus on learning so they can realize their full potential. Community Partnership Schools also engage parents and the community to empower students and families to succeed.

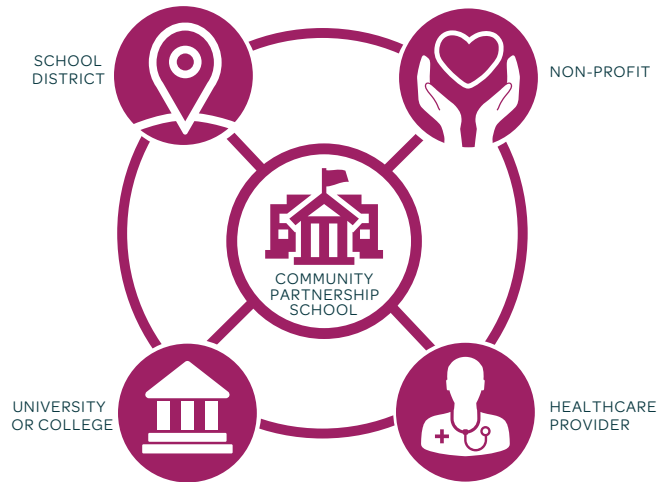
### The core of every Community Partnership School is a strong foundation:

**4 or more core partners:** School district, reputable nonprofit like CHS, healthcare provider, college or university.

**Long-term commitment:** Partners make a 25-year (or longer) commitment.

**Shared decision-making:** Governed by a council of representatives from each partner organization, school leadership and community members to make decisions about funding, allocating resources, services and more.

**Leveraged resources:** Community Partnership Schools identify and coordinate local providers that can offer academic support programs, enrichment activities and wellness services at the school. **For every \$1 spent to operate the Community Partnership School, partners bring an average of \$3 of additional resources to the school.** By blending and braiding funding from multiple sectors (health, education, human services), we create opportunities in the school and surrounding community to remove barriers to learning and success.



### Each Community Partnership School focuses on four pillars:

- ★ **Expanded Learning:** Academic support and enrichment take place before and after school, during weekends and in the summer to augment traditional learning during the school day.
- ★ **Wellness Supports:** A range of health and social services are accessible on the school campus.
- ★ **Family & community engagement:** Families and the community are partners in children’s education, and the school becomes a neighborhood center offering enrichment opportunities for both students and adults.
- ★ **Collaborative leadership:** A culture of shared governance and collective decision-making advances a unified vision to identify needs and provide appropriate resources and solutions in the school and community.

**For more information, please contact Renita Houston, Community Partnership School Director, at [Renita.Houston@chsfl.org](mailto:Renita.Houston@chsfl.org) or 941-741-3319.**

**[WWW.CHSFL.ORG/SCHOOLS/MANATEE](http://WWW.CHSFL.ORG/SCHOOLS/MANATEE)**

Manatee Elementary, A Community Partnership School is a partnership among Children’s Home Society of Florida, Manatee County Rural Health Services, the School District of Manatee County and the University of South Florida.

