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Communities In Schools of Tennessee taps Clay as CEO

Communities In Schools of Tennessee, the state office of a dropout prevention program, has named Hank Clay as its new chief executive officer.

Clay most recently was the assistant to the director of Metro Nashville Public Schools for government relations.

During his five years at MNPS led a transition team that performed a full audit of district performance and coordinated budget needs and grants.

He served as board member of CISTN from 2014 until April 2017.

"We were drawn to Hank because of his experience in education in Nashville, and the extensive community network he built at MNPS," Alice Chapman, board chairwoman of Communities In Schools of Tennessee, said in a release. "Hank brings the ability to effectively evaluate programs and collaborate with individuals and organizations across Tennessee to ensure the students we work with are given every chance at success in school and in life."

A University of Georgia graduate, Clay received his Bachelor of Arts degree in international affairs and bachelor's degree in social work in 2007 before going on to earn a Master of Public Administration degree and a Master of Social Work degree in 2009. While at the University of Georgia, Clay held positions at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and helped found the Athens-Clarke County Mental Health Court, both in Athens as a program evaluator.

In 2009, Clay moved to Nashville to serve as a legislative performance auditor in the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury's Office. He then made the move to education and accepted a position with the Tennessee Department of Education, where he implemented and evaluated budget and performance goals as well as advised senior staff in strategies to reach Race to the Top program goals.