

Hamilton County Department of Education

Work Session

May 21, 2026 4:30 PM

3074 Claude Ramsey Parkway

Chattanooga, TN 37421

I. Call to Order

II. Delegations

A. Stephen Reiter - Budget Options for MidTown Learning Community

B. Ashley Gates - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

C. Clark Thompson - Budget Options for MidTown Learning Community

D. Bill Worden - Budget Options for MidTown Learning Community

III. Committee Chair Updates

A. Transportation - Ben Connor

B. Policy - Felice Hadden

C. School Safety - Jodi Schaffer

D. Legislative - Jodi Schaffer

E. Facilities - Gary Kuehn

F. Finance - Ben Daugherty

G. Athletics - Steve Slater

IV. Discussion of the Board Meeting Agenda

A. Gary Kuehn - District 9

Budget Status: CWS-US Curriculum Collab with HCS MidTown Learning Community

V. Adjourn



3074 Hickory Valley Road Chattanooga Tennessee 307421
423.498.7020

February 11, 2026

Dear Mr. Reiter,

I am writing to express my support for continued collaboration between CWS-US and the MidTown Learning Community. Over the years, your organization has provided meaningful after-school exposure opportunities that have broadened our students' perspectives in digital fields and connected learning to real-world experiences. These Saturday opportunities have been instrumental in helping students envision expanded pathways for their future.

As MidTown Learning Community Superintendent, I remain deeply committed to ensuring that our scholars have access to experiences that elevate academic engagement, leadership development, and global understanding while enhancing their knowledge of technological advancements. Partnering with CWS-US empowers students through authentic learning experiences that foster both personal growth and community impact.

I support the continued funding of this program and the expanded Saturday opportunities offered to MidTown high school students. I will work alongside our school leaders to identify and support strong student candidates for participation, ensuring equitable access and alignment with the goals of this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tiffany N. Earvin", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Dr. Tiffany N. Earvin
MidTown Learning Community Superintendent
Hamilton County Schools



BUDGET REQUEST APPLICATION
FY 2026-2027

A. Cover Form

Organization Name: CWS-US INC

Organization Legal Name: CWS-US INC

Project Name(s): Digital Technology Workshops

Federal Tax ID#: 93-2953911

Mailing Address: 1251 N Eddy St, South Bend, IN 46617-1478

Hamilton County Address: 5816 Mountain Pass Drive, Ooltewah, TN 37363-9200

Year Established: 2023

Years organization has operated in Hamilton County or served Hamilton County residents: 2

Organization's authorizing official contact: Stephen Reiter

Organization's application contact person: Matthew Cloud

Fiscal year total operating budget: _____

Current fiscal year start/end date: 7/1/2025-6/30/2026

First time applicant: YES

Requested county funds: \$ 135,000

The above and following schedules embodying a request for an allocation from Hamilton County, Tennessee for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 (fiscal year 2027) were considered and approved by our Board of Directors on 01/19/2026. In the judgment of our Board, it represents the minimum needs of our organization for this fiscal year.

Stephen Reiter

Signature of President or Board Chair

Signature of Executive Director

THIS ALLOCATION REQUEST IS DUE BY JANUARY 30,2026

B. Grant Application

STATEMENT OF NEED

1. What needs does your program address, and why is it important to the Hamilton County population?

Submitting this request for funding given support by Tucker McClendon, several HCBE members, and sponsored by Dr. Tiffany Earvin. This effort will provide education to students at Dalewood Middle School, Brainerd High School, and Howard High School in meeting/exceeding the standards set forth in Tennessee Code Title 49, Education § 49-1-232. The cited unfunded state

2. Provide data and statistics that support your organization's needs.

Building upon an already proven curriculum used during 2025, sponsored by the City of Chattanooga - Industrial Development Board, we were able to provide a class of 19 students from 3 high schools (Howard, Brainerd, and Tyner Academy), 17 completed at least one micro-credential, along with 35 total credentials including industry certifications from Cisco-NetAcad and CompTIA with transfer credit available to TCAT, Chattanooga State College, and Cleveland State College. The curriculum is based upon highly successful federal grants which the Board of Directors of CWS-US were the principal investigators of through multiple university partnerships across several States, including Tennessee's own University of Tennessee - Chattanooga. Those programs trained several thousand across the US starting with the same materials, but focused upon adult (primarily

OUTCOMES / OUTPUTS / INITIATIVES

3. How do you plan to utilize grant money awarded by Hamilton County?

Establish and implement a set of Saturday sessions with selected students per those institutions identified by Dr. Tiffany Earvin to provide core computer science training at schools under her leadership. Each session will be taught per the curriculum utilized previously with updates as required due to changes in technologies applied. The funding will primarily be used to pay for instructors and teaching assistance as well as training for current instructors in the School Corporation. Funding will also be used to support the administration of non-profit and overhead. A small amount of funding will be used for providing snacks and other items to fully engage the students.

4. What results are you committed to achieving during the grant period? What key performance measures will you use to evaluate and track those results? (750-word suggestion)

CWS-US plans to provide services to at least 60 students of which at least 48 will complete at least one certificate or certification in Digital Technology. Course completion will render a Certificate of Completion in Digital Technology from CWS-US which qualifies for Computer Science credit and at the High School level will qualify for transfer credit to one or more local college programs through a local dual credit agreement between the school corporation, the colleges and CWS-US. At least 25% of the students will complete one or more certificates or certifications in industry recognized Digital Technology. The certificates, certifications and local dual credits will also qualify as Early Post-Secondary Outcomes (EPSO's) per the State of Tennessee requirement. These numbers are the minimums expected, but we have a goal to actually double the numbers when and where there is interest and possibility.

5. What entities do you collaborate with which could also benefit from monies awarded by Hamilton County?

As previously proven, CWS-US will collaborate with a number of local based organizations. In the past we worked with the City of Chattanooga, Tech Goes Home, The Enterprise Center, Apprenticeship TN, Oracle, Cisco - NetAcad and others. We have engaged with Chatt2.0 and various other local groups, including multiple employers to provide county wide training for workforce development.

6. What is your organization's long-term vision, as it relates to your philanthropy and operations?

As per our discussions with Hamilton County Schools, we will use the funds provided to provide this set of pilot programs which will when proven successful is embedded into the classrooms of our middle and high schools across the county. HCS will determine over time if CWS-US continues and expands the current relationship into having instructors at all identified schools after a "train the trainer" program is underway or conversely migrate over the next 2 years into an in-house program where CWS-US maintains an updated curriculum reflecting ever-changing technological changes. Beyond this program in Hamilton County, we have a goal of providing over 10,000 students per

C. Evaluation and Sustainability

7. If you utilize any evidence-based programs, please indicate which state and/or federal websites list the program and the rating given.

We do not use State and Federal based programs. However, we do use evidence based programs based upon research and methodologies developed by the Board of Directors in prior federally funded grants from the NSA, NSF, DOE, and DOL as well as several offices of the State of Indiana, where the programs were originally founded.

8. Describe how your organization plans to sustain services financially if Hamilton County funds do not extend past the awarded fiscal year

We are in going discussions at the State legislature to determine future funding alternatives as there is a gap in the funding model at the State level for Computer Science education requirements. We are also seeking additional federal and private grants to support these endeavors.

D. Budget, Supporting Financial Documents and Attachments

Submit each of the following and complete the schedules that follow. If a document is not attached to your submission, please select N/A in the appropriate dropdown box:

- Your most recent audit (and previous two audits for organizations with a budget of \$750,000 or more)
Document Attached
- The organization's current operating budget - Schedule I
Document Attached
- A Form 990 from the previous three (3) years
Document Attached
- IRS Letter of Determination
Document Attached
- Current Certificate of Existence with the State of Tennessee
Document Attached
- Demographic information for clients served - Schedule II
Document Attached
- Board & Staff Information - Schedule III
Document Attached
- Grants, Contracts, MOU Table - Schedule IV
Document Attached
- Strategic Plan
Document Attached
- Letters of Support
Document Attached

PROGRAM BUDGET SUPPORT REVENUE

NAME OF AGENCY BUDGET BY SERVICES FOR	FY 2026 Approved Budget	FY 2027 Proposed Budget	REVENUES	EXPENSES/EXPENDITURES						
			Support/ Revenues	PROGRAM SERVICES				SUPPORT SERVICES		
				Program 1	Program 2	Program 3	Total Prog. Servs.	Mgmt & General	Fund Raising	Total Supp. Serv.
SUPPORT/REVENUE FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS:										
Contributions	2,000	100,000	100,000							
Net Proceeds Special Events	0	0	0							
Designations	0	0	0							
United Way	0	0	0							
Fees/Grants from Governmental Agencies	62,500	62,500	62,500							
Membership Dues	0	0	0							
Program Income	66,000	200,000	200,000							
Sales to Public	0	0	0							
Investment Income	0	0	0							
Transfers to Operating Budget	0	0	0							
Income from Previous Year	4,800	5,000	5,000							
Miscellaneous	0	0	0							
*Support Requested from Hamilton County	0	135,000	135,000							
TOTAL SUPPORT/REVENUES	135,300	502,500	502,500							
EXPENDITURES FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS:										
Salaries Only (No Benefits)	12,000	96,000		0	0	0	0	96,000	0	96,000
Employee Health & Retirement Benefits	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Employment Taxes, etc.	2,400	19,200		0	0	0	0	19,200	0	19,200
Professional Fees/Contract Service Payments	103,000	275,904		30,328	145,576	98,000	273,904	2,000	0	2,000
Supplies	2,000	10,000		0	0	0	0	10,000	0	10,000
Telephone	1,200	2,400		0	0	0	0	2,400	0	2,400
Postage and Shipping	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occupancy	1,020	2,040		0	0	0	0	2,040	0	2,040
Equipment Rental and Maintenance	0	5,000		0	0	0	0	5,000	0	5,000
Outside printing, art work, etc.	1,200	2,400		0	0	0	0	2,400	0	2,400
Local Transportation	2,000	31,164		15,164	4,000	4,000	23,164	8,000	0	8,000
Conferences, Conventions, etc.	2,000	6,000		0	0	0	0	6,000	0	6,000
Special Assistance to Individuals	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organization Dues	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Awards and Grants	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Raising/Self-Support Activities	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	643	700		0	0	0	0	700	0	700
Miscellaneous	2,844	40,000		3,000	14,000	11,000	28,000	12,000	0	12,000
Depreciation	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Dues/Support Payments	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment Purchases	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES/EXPENDITURES	130,307	490,808		48,492	163,576	113,000	325,068	165,740	0	165,740
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	4,993	11,692								

Program Beneficiary Statistics

(This should reflect total program count. Copy as needed for each program.)

Digital Technology Workshop - Hamilton County (Program 3)

(Name of Program)

Program Beneficiary Characteristics Clients/Patients/Recipients/Other	Fiscal 2026 Budget	Fiscal 2026 Projected	Fiscal 2027 Proposed Budget
1. Unduplicated Count of Program TOTAL	0	0	72
Beneficiaries			
a. Total Continuing from Previous Fiscal Year	0	0	0
b. Total New for the Year	0	0	60
c. Total Terminated During the Year	0	0	12
2. Age Group TOTAL	0	0	60
a. Infants-Under 5	0	0	0
b. Between 5 and 12	0	0	0
c. Between 13 and 17	0	0	50
d. Between 18 and 29	0	0	10
e. Between 30 and 64	0	0	0
f. 65 and over	0	0	0
g. Not Known	0	0	0
3. Gender TOTAL	0	0	60
a. Male	0	0	30
b. Female	0	0	30
c. Not Known/Other	0	0	0
4. Ethnic Background TOTAL	0	0	60
a. White	0	0	20
b. Black	0	0	40
c. Hispanic	0	0	0
d. Oriental	0	0	0
e. Other - Ethnic Minority	0	0	0
f. Not Known	0	0	0
5. Income Level TOTAL	0	0	60
a. Below 4,999	0	0	0
b. 5,000-7,499	0	0	0
c. 7,500-9,999	0	0	0
d. 10,000-14,999	0	0	0
e. 15,000-19,999	0	0	0
f. 20,000-29,999	0	0	0
g. 30,000 and Over	0	0	0
h. Not Known	0	0	60
6. Location of Residence TOTAL	0	0	60
a. Hamilton County	0	0	60
b. Outside of Hamilton County	0	0	0
c. Not Known	0	0	0

**HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
FISCAL YEAR 2027**

Agency Name: CWS-US INC

1. Are the dollars Hamilton County appropriates to your agency designated for the benefit of a specific geographical segment of the community? **NO**
2. If the answer to question number 1 above is yes, please explain.

3. Please estimate the percentage of your services provided to the geographic area listed below:

Unincorporated County	0.0%
City of Chattanooga	<u>100.0%</u>
City of East Ridge	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Signal Mountain	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Red Bank	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Soddy Daisy	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Lakesite	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Walden	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Collegedale	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Ridgeside	<u>0.0%</u>
City of Lookout Mountain	<u>0.0%</u>
All areas outside of Hamilton County	<u>0.0%</u>
 Total	 <u><u>100.0%</u></u>

Schedule of Positions, Salaries & Wages
Confidential (for Hamilton County internal use only)

CWS-US INC

(Name of Agency)

ALL FINANCIAL INFORMATION ROUNDED TO NEAREST DOLLAR

Board of Directors Title and/or Position	Name(s) Last Name, Initial	Part Time	#Years Emp	Emp. Covered by Retirement (a)	Current FY			Proposed FY		
					# Weeks Employed	Annual Salary	Budgeted Salary	# Weeks Employed	Annual Salary	Budgeted Salary
Director/CEO	Reiter, S.	YES	3	--	52	6,000	6,000	52	48,000	48,000
Director/COO	Cloud, M.	YES	3	--	52	6,000	6,000	52	48,000	48,000
Director	Worden, W.	YES	3	--						
There is no salary for directors.		--		--						
Directors may take a salary for other roles		--		--						
-- CEO/COO, etc. as programs grow.		--		--						
-- At the time of this submission no one is		--		--						
-- taking a salary current fiscal year, but		--		--						
-- upon receipt of awarded grants in multiple		--		--						
-- locations in MA and IN will begin.		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						
		--		--						

* If a position is changed from a part-time to a full-time position, show each as a separate position unit.
 List positions in order of responsibility and include all staff and employees of agency in this schedule.
 Non-professional employees performing similar services may be reported as a group.
 (a.) Check if person is covered by retirement benefits.

AGENCY: CWS-US INC

AWARDS AND GRANTS FROM GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES CITY/COUNTY/STATE/FEDERAL

PROGRAM/PROJECT TITLE	NAME OF SOURCE	FOR HOW LONG?	LAST YEAR	THIS YEAR	NEXT YEAR
1 Digital Equity/Technology Workshops Chattanooga	Tech Goes Home-Chatt	16 weeks	50,000	0	0
2 Digital Equity Implementation grants MA (multiple)	State of MA	1 calendar year	0	62,500	62,500
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
Total Fees From Governmental Agencies			50,000	62,500	62,500

ALL FINANCIAL INFORMATION ROUNDED TO NEAREST DOLLAR