

Nick Thayer was awarded the Social Work Impact Award on March 6, 2024 after being nominated by Amy Parmentier. March is national Social Work Month and Nick epitomizes this year's theme- "Inspiring Action, Leading Change". Nick definitely Leads the Charge at CHS and we are grateful to him for his support of our CHS community. We also want to acknowledge and thank our school social workers Amy Deemer and Anna Ghafoori for their amazing contributions to our Charger community as well.

*"Nick is an outstanding clinician and an even better human being. No matter the need, the ask, or the requirement, Nick meets every challenge with compassion, expert clinical skills, and dedication. He is a true collaborative team member and is always available to support students who are experiencing a challenge at school. In a school as large as Chantilly, it can take years for a school social worker to establish credibility. Nick was very quickly determined to be a responsive, knowledgeable, and caring professional and our entire faculty holds him in extremely high regard because they know they can count on Nick. Even when dealing with extremely difficult and high conflict situations, Nick maintains his equilibrium; his warmth and kindness have not only helped to diffuse these situations, he has helped students, parents, and faculty to feel a sense of restoration after working or meeting with him. Nick helped to start our school's first food pantry and he has kept the pantry thriving even after the departure of the other school social worker who helped to start the initiative. He develops and leads groups that are aligned with school-wide needs and goals. In short, Nick, although he is quite an Orioles fan, is really similar to Roy Kent, the soccer player in Ted Lasso... he's here, he's there, he's everywhere- and he really is. He is completely integrated into the fabric of our school community and what a difference he has made here."*