# The Center

# For Law & Social Work

Spring Newsletter 2019

# We Grow Stronger Families

#### **Dear Friend**

I am so excited to be able to say that The Center is expanding its services! We are adding a new South Side location to better serve our foster care and post adoption families where they live.

Every step in our journey forward has been made with the support of donors and sponsors who care about The Center's mission, and the lives that this agency impacts. The grand opening of Center South is made possible by you. Please join us at our Open House on May 23rd. Swing by for some light refreshments and to learn more about the important services provided by our growing organization.

Sincerely,

Vaire Slans

Executive Director

# **Open House at Center South!**

LOCATION

3636 S Iron Street

**DATE AND TIME** 05/23/19 3:30pm-05/23/19 7:00pm

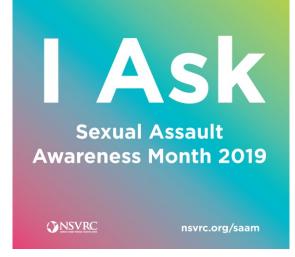
Visit Center South for a tour of the new office, located in a restored early 1900s warehouse! Light refreshments will be served.





### Sexual Assault Awareness Month

In April, Porchlight Counseling Services hosted and participated in 18 events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month, reaching over 300 students! We hosted free yoga classes for students at Core Power and North Loft Yoga, free barre classes for students at Pure Barre, participated in campus demonstrations at DePaul University and UIC, and hosted educational workshops at Columbia College and University of Chicago. We also hosted a gallery tour for our staff at Awakenings Gallery, tabled at UIC's Take Back the Night event at Northwestern University's Open-Mic and Resource Night, and our Executive Director, Maria Nanos, participated in a podcast and community discussion with Hope for the Day.



These events allowed us to bring awareness to the services that we provide, and let students know that we are a resource for them should they need it. These events also allowed us to continue sending the message of how important it is to support survivors, empower them, and be there for them as they embark on their journey toward a place of hope, healing and recovery. Porchlight is grateful for the partnerships we've made within the community, and we're excited to continue this work in the months to come.

Learn more about Porchlight

#### CLSW Raises Over \$120,000!

Thank you to the over 270 generous supporters who attended the Impact Gala on April 11, 2019, and another thank you to those who donated but couldn't attend. Your generosity lead to our most successful fundraiser to date. Money raised goes directly toward serving our clients.

Don't forget to support our sponsors!



## An Adoption Begins in Your Heart

Learn more about the journey of becoming an adoptive parent from Felicia Stratten. Ms. Stratten is a treasured part of the team at The Center. Her career has been built on helping families adopt children in foster care. In December 2018, she found herself in a new role as an adoptive mom.

Read more about Felicia's adoption experience



