

Dear Friend,

Can I let you in on a little secret? Who am I kidding? We can't keep this a secret. We are so excited about this news that we are ready to shout it from the rooftops!

During our inaugural FY2019 Annual Appeal campaign, the Center for Law and Social Work (CLSW) raised more than \$40,000 for vulnerable children and families throughout the State of Illinois. This was only possible because of your generous support. You came to our November event, *Eat, Drink, and Be Giving* to raise funds for our Porchlight Counseling Services program. You generously gave in response to our December Annual Appeal letter.

And, even if you did not personally get a chance to participate in active giving last year, you continue to read our newsletter and stay informed. You follow CLSW because you recognize this as a worthwhile non-profit, with a skilled staff that dedicates themselves to helping others. And maybe, just maybe, in 2019 you will become an active donor and will help us raise even more than \$40,000 so that we can continue to increase access to care.

Whether you generously support CLSW through your donations or you support us through sharing our posts on social media, we appreciate it. Together, we are changing lives and growing forever families.

Thank you for making a difference!



Dr. Maria Nanos, LCSW
Executive Director



Board of Directors pictured above from left to right:

Associate Director Ruth McMahon, John Culver, Carla Varner, Board President Eric Chisholm, Ameet Patil, Stephen Schalk, and Executive Director Maria Nanos



Join Us on April 11th!

Help us preserve families, provide hope, and protect lives

Did you know that the Center has assisted more than 3,000 families looking to adopt or to become foster parents through the Adoption Listing Service of Illinois?

Did you know that more than 300 survivors of sexual assault on college campuses have received support through Porchlight Counseling Services?

Our drive to continue serving families, children, and young adults is empowered by your drive to give. Join us for this year's Impact Gala on April 11th so that you can help make a positive impact on the lives of others. Funds raised through ticket sales,

raffle tickets, live auction, and donations support direct services for children, young adults, and families who need it most.

[Ticket sales and donations](#)

Meet Pamela Sherrod Anderson

In 2016, the Center For Law and Social Work (CLSW) had its first contact with Pamela Sherrod Anderson, a filmmaker, writer, journalist, and educator. It was a meeting which would lead to a connection that CLSW would now like to celebrate.



Please join the Center on April 11th at the annual fundraiser to recognize Pamela Sherrod Anderson with the 2019 Impact Award.

Pamela's dedication to accurately capturing the joys and struggles of grandparents who are raising their grandchildren in her documentary, *The G-Force*, truly deserves recognition. The *G-Force* debuted in August 2018 and another screening has been scheduled for Sunday, February 17th, at Chicago Filmmakers, 5720 N Ridge Ave, Chicago, IL. Spoiler alert: this documentary features an interview given by the Center's own Dr. Maria Nanos!

[Click here for more details.](#)

Becoming a Family

[Felicia Stratten](#) has focused her professional career on helping families become whole through foster care and adoption. As an Adoption Recruiter, she works directly with children in the foster system who are available for adoption. She spends time getting to know each child she works with in order to find and place them with their forever families.

It was through her work at the Center for Law and Social Work (CLSW) that Felicia first learned about Angelle, who was just 10 years old at the time. Felicia and her husband, Sean, knew that they wanted to adopt. They began the process by first fostering Angelle, giving the three of them time to get to know one another. For three years, Felicia and Sean fostered their daughter as they underwent the process of becoming licensed to adopt. On December 12, 2019, the entire staff at CLSW joined Felicia and her family at the Daley Center to witness Angelle's adoption by one of our very own.

Congratulations to our beautiful forever family!

