

American Society for Public Administration
Greater Chicago Chapter



**44th Annual
Public Service Recognition
Awards Program**

Friday, April 26, 2024
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Illinois Tech Stuart School of Business



Awards Program

4:30 – 6:30 p.m. – Program

Welcome & Acknowledgements

Roland Calia, Ph.D.
ASPA Greater Chicago Chapter

Presentation of the Louis Brownlow
Faculty of the Year Award to:

Eunju Rho

Presentation of the Dean F. Eitel
Graduate Student Awards

Lanise Washington, DePaul University
Lilibeth Arreola Caballer, Illinois Institute of Technology
Sevtap Guldur, National Louis University
Paola Garcia, Northern Illinois University
Harris Penn, Roosevelt University
Mateo Cruz, University of Chicago
Kaylynn Harris, University of Illinois at Chicago

Presentation of the Joanne E. Howard
Model Administrator/Alumnus Awards

Gary Scott, DePaul University
Richard J. Greenfield, Governors State University
Antonio Benavides, National Louis University
Phil Kiraly, Northern Illinois University
Isabelle Dienstag, University of Chicago
Cristian Arana, University of Illinois at Chicago

Presentation of the Adlai Stevenson
Public Service Award to:
Cliff Nellis

2024 Adlai Stevenson Public Service Awards



Cliff Nellis
Lawndale Christian Legal Center

Cliff Nellis' call to work with youth and young adults involved in the criminal justice system occurred in 2002 when he pedaled his bicycle from Denver, CO, to San Diego, CA, to Miami, FL, with a Bible. Cliff had just finished his federal clerkship in Denver

after graduating from The University of Chicago Law School. On that bike trip, Cliff would read the Bible daily. He soon became a follower of Jesus and sensed a call to youth ministry when he happened across a guard shack in front of a boys' correctional facility outside Springer, NM. After striking up a conversation with the guard, Cliff was alarmed by the number of times the guard told him the kids in the facility had no hope. The guard said the kids who came in at thirteen years old, returned at fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, and went on to spend the rest of their lives in adult prison. The conversation haunted Cliff. As he pedaled on to San Diego and Miami, Cliff began to pray for youth in juvenile correctional facilities and asked God to give him a vision for serving them.

When Cliff returned to Illinois, he enrolled at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and received a Master of Divinity. It was at Trinity that Cliff met the wonderful people at Lawndale Community Church, as well as at the Christian Community Development Association. Through these relationships, Cliff was given a broader vision for what ministry to court-involved youth could look like.

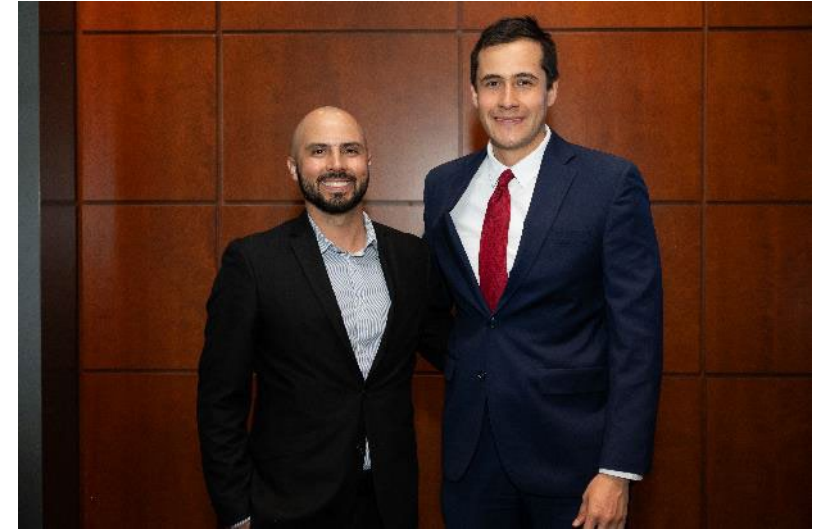
In 2009, Cliff moved to North Lawndale to live and raise his family there, and to help found the Lawndale Christian Legal Center, with the mission of providing integrated legal and social services to court-involved youth.

Cliff holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and English from Illinois Wesleyan University, a Master in Divinity from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and a law degree from The University of Chicago. He is licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois. Cliff is also currently enrolled in the Executive MBA program at University of Chicago Booth School of Business to learn better how to scale what LCLC is doing, across Cook County, and ultimately the nation, in order to transform our criminal justice system for youth, 24 and under.





Northern Illinois University



The University of Chicago



Kevin Conlon and Joanne Howard



Cliff Nellis and Parents



Daniela Velez Medina



Northern Illinois University



Eunju Rho, Brownlow Recipient



Roland Calia and Lilibeth Arreola Caballer, IIT



Northern Illinois University



Northern Illinois University



The University of Chicago



Roosevelt University



Northern Illinois University



Northern Illinois University



Nayruz Mahmoud Ateih Alshaar and Spouse



Cliff Nellis, Adlai Stevenson Awardee



NIU Brownlow and Alumni Awardees



Joanne, Roland, and Helen from IIT



Devin and Edgar from IIT



Nayruz, Dee, Lilibeth, and Daniela, IIT



The Nellis Family



Daniela, Joanne, and Lilibeth



Roland Calia and Erica Ceka



IIT Graduate Students