

OUR AWARD WINNERS: Chris Kelsey & Loretta Arnn

2017 People's Choice Award • 2017 President's Volunteer Service Gold Award 2017 Governor's Volunteer Service Appreciation Award





Imprints Cares Volunteer Dynamic Duo: Chris Kelsey & Loretta Arnn

For 12 years+ Imprints Cares has been fortunate to be connected with our longtime volunteers, Chris Kelsey and Loretta Arnn—compassionate in their life's work with children and their families. Their shared goals aligned with Imprints Cares—a vision to unlock to the potential of children and their families for success in school and in life—and our journey began together. They are modest and giving spirits—not seeking the spotlight for themselves, but simply wanting to shine a light on others. This is at the core of their excellence in volunteer service.

They always seek to make each and every person feel better. You'll find them talking, sharing, and laughing with our children and families in need when we come together. Whether they are showing a child and parent how to learn through activities or serving food but taking the time to sit down and join them in conversation or thoughtfully organizing a library of books to take into their homes—they influence change in our mission work.

Chris retired from B.A.B.I.E.S. where she served as Director. Loretta retired as a certified Infant-Toddler Family Specialist. They both share the same mission with early childhood intervention to partner with families of at-risk children with delays and/or disabilities. While battling severe health problems, Loretta didn't stop her service. Their leadership and advocacy provided countless families the ability to maximize their child's physical, cognitive, and social/emotional development.

Their kindness is seen in their personal lives. When Loretta met Chris, her son, and daughter—her children loved her immediately. They both cherish being moms and grandmoms to 4 sweet little ones. Chris also chose to be a foster mom to 17 children. She shared her first was a 5-day old baby born in a mental facility. When the nurse came to their home, she told Chris' family her name was Wendy. Her young son exclaimed "That is what we named her!" They were all in. She says, "Being a foster mom was a special blessing in our lives."

Their professional and personal experience with child development and family engagement has provided Imprints Cares endless opportunities to effect change through our programs and executive management. Their joy in keeping our daily operations humming along is appreciated as it supports our much needed spaces for our mission work. When you walk the halls of Imprints Cares—you'll see their "imprint." They are critical thinkers with a proactive eye for organization, detail, and efficiencies.

Chris and Loretta also volunteer with Piedmont Down Syndrome Support Network (PDSSN) and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winston-Salem (UU Fellowship WS). In the past, Chris was on the board of Family Services for 4 years as well. Their volunteer service is truly a commitment to the lives of children in need, children of exceptional needs, children of diversity, children of all walks of life and their families so they have equal opportunities and a voice in our community.



"Every woman, and every man, too, must take responsibility in their hearts for all children. We adults are the parental generation. Every child is our child. To ignore the state of our children is to ignore the state of our world. Wounded children become wounded adults, and wounded adults can destroy a planet."

-Williamson

Chris and Loretta "walk the walk." They are a bright spot in our lives



Chris, Janet Ray (board member), & Loretta











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Thank You
from
Chris Kelsey & Loretta Arnn





