



RENA MORAN, Ramsey County Commissioner – District 4

2023 YEAR SUMMARY

I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU A LOOK BACK AT MY FAVORITE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023. IN MY FIRST YEAR I GAINED A WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCES, PARTNERSHIPS AND ACHIEVEMENTS. THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO REPRESENT YOU HERE IN RAMSEY COUNTY DISTRICT 4.

...RENA



New Beginnings

- The signing of the CROWN Act marked a triumphant moment in addressing hair-based discrimination. I had the honor of bringing the Crown act to MN (In 2023, Sen. Champion & Rep Ebajae authored and passed the Crown Act into law!)
- In 2020 as a State Representative, I had the honor of bringing the Crown Act to Minnesota. The CROWN Act is a law that forbids discrimination based on hair texture and hair styles. CROWN stands for, “Create a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair.”
- Always committed to transparency, focusing on open communication and collaboration. The NACo (National Association of Counties) Conference provides a national platform for counties.



Navigating Community

- Speaking to young adult leaders about community development hinges on a partnership with government.
- Took the time to visit Groveland Park Elementary school to promote reading to school-aged children.
- My onboarding included tours of Ramsey County facilities to become more informed about building locations, services and to meet county staff.





Facing Issues and Celebrating Work Done

- Proud to actively support the crucial efforts of the bail reform working group.
- I was honored by the Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter of The Links, Inc., for my work with and for communities. Along with Former Commissioner Toni Carter and Former State Representative Ruth Richardson.





Community Achievements and Celebrations

- The EMS is a program for low-income adults who are Ramsey County residents. I celebrated with the first ever all women graduating class. Historic!!
- Always proud to support open house events, celebrating new locations like Walker-West Music Academy.

Partnerships and Community Engagement

- Great visit at Vail Place which is a mental health clubhouse that provide community base recovery services for adult with serious mental health challenges who receive invaluable support that helps them find their strengths.
- Attended the launch of the Earn and Learn initiative, which aims to provide financial support to our youth while we train them.
- Partnerships between community organizations and local government play a crucial role in the success of the community. The Sundance Foundation was honored for legacy work in community.





Harvesting Progress and Community Spotlight

- I was embarked on a trek of National Night Out events across District 4, witnessing children, parents/adults and community talking, laughing together and showing the strength of community.

Welcoming Autumn With Progress

- I was excited to be a part of the Workforce Innovation Board visit to Dakota County Service Center.
- Ramsey County is continuing efforts to transform the city of St. Paul through the RiversEdge Project.





Gratitude and Achievements

- A women's community support group led by Ramsey County Officials and Judges. I applaud Judge Mitchell for her leadership.
- Legislators, County Board and staff toured Ramsey County Public Health facility located at 555 Cedar in Saint Paul. I was particularly surprised but amazed about how the center staff were able to accomplish their work so effectively within the restraints of the space. A new facility and bonding dollars are needed.



Reflections and Thanksgiving

- Honored at the Aspire Awards, where I received the Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to children in Minnesota. I shared the evening with Jessica Peterson and Mary Reed.
- Extended congratulations to the FAST (Families Achieving Success Today) program team for winning the DHS Teamwork Award.





Empowering Tomorrow: Ramsey County's Youth Initiatives in Focus

- It was with great pride that I shared a recent roundtable discussion where Ramsey County hosted and actively engaged in dialogue with Senior Advisor to the President, Tom Perez. The focus of this impactful conversation revolved around Ramsey County's innovative youth initiatives designed to pave career pathways and create opportunities for our young community members.



Year-End Reflections

- Engaging in public hearings alongside my fellow Commissioners was a valuable opportunity to foster transparency and open communication with the community.
- Reflecting on the challenging times we faced, I have many positive emotions. A few are pride, resilience and gratitude. I am humbled by witnessing the unwavering leadership and cooperation of the Ramsey County Board and Staff during Covid-19. Their efforts deserve recognition.

