

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Dear Friend,

With the end of the year approaching, we know that the Holiday Season may be a more challenging time of the year for some. We wanted to highlight some state resources and social services that everyone can be aware of so that those in need can get assistance. Share with those in need and we hope that everyone has a Happy Holiday season. Our office will be closed from December 22nd-January 2nd due to the weather advisory alerts and to enjoy time with our friends and families through the Holidays, we look forward to returning to serve you in the new year on January 3rd, 2023.



Updated Emergency and Transitional Housing Facilities

The Illinois Department of Human Services has updated their list of emergency and transitional housing facilities within the state of Illinois. With inclimate weather already in swing and more coming, we hope all our constituents have a warm space to be and roof over their heads. Click the link here to see the full list and if you need assistance in being connected to emergency or transitional housing, you can call 211 or my office for assistance at (630)326-9319.

Illinois State Small Business Credit Initiative

In the upcoming months, Illinois will be receiving up to \$354.6 million from the U.S. Department of Treasury to administer programs as a part of the State Small Business Credit Initiative. These programs will help support small businesses in the state. The programs will begin to be released in the upcoming months. To receive information on the programs being released click <u>HERE</u>.





Roadway Safety

With holiday celebrations coming up and the winter weather becoming harsh, it is important to remember to stay safe on the roads or when walking. Remember to avoid the roads when winter advisory weather warnings are issued when possible, and practice safe winter driving and patience when it is not. Also please remember to have a designated driver or call transportation services such as uber when participating in Holiday festivities that put you at risk for impairment. Click on the link here to learn more about roadway safety and what you can do to help keep our roads as safe as possible.

Warming Centers in the 25th District

With winter finally here, please be aware of the warming centers in your community in case you or someone you know might need them. We want to ensure a safe and warm winter season for everyone in our communities. Click on the links below to access and view where the warming centers reside near you.

Cook County: Click <u>here</u>! DuPage County: Click <u>here</u>! Kane County: Click <u>here</u>! Kendall County: Click <u>here</u>



Stay in Touch! Follow us on Social Media:



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Our office partners with State Representative Maura Hirschauer and co-runs four advisory committees: Environmental and Agriculture, Mental Health, Seniors, and Education. These committees are a limited public forum led by volunteer chairs and seek to create compassionate conversation among the voices of the 25th/49th districts in order to give effective representation. Our education advisory committee will meet December 8th from 7-8pm, if you are looking for a way to advocate in the educational sphere email education.49th@gmail.com

My staff and I look forward to hearing from you. I encourage you to reach out to us at 630-326-9319 (English), 630-326-9419 (Spanish) or <u>constituentservices@senatorvilla.com</u>. Textline is (331)465-9690.

Be well!

Karina Villa, MSW State Senator, 25th District