



# Newsletter

## New Office Location, Upcoming Events, Grants, and More!

Dear Friend,

Spring has sprung, and I hope everyone has been taking advantage of the rising temperatures April has had to offer us thus far. After a short recess, I am happy to be back in the Senate this week to begin the work on the House Bills that passed and have arrived in the Senate. You can see all of the House Bills I'm carrying in the Senate [here](#).

### Our Aurora Office is Open!



This past weekend our office was happy to officially open our Aurora Office location, ribbon cutting and all! Thanks to those that came out to help us celebrate this opening, and we thank the local East Aurora High School students that allowed us to showcase their art, Primos Tacos for serving food, and the Holy Cross Immaculate Heart of Mary Marimba for providing entertainment. You can now visit our Aurora Office at 1177 N Highland Ave, Suite 101, Aurora, IL, 60506, contact our office at (331)465-9690 and email us at [info@senatorvilla.com](mailto:info@senatorvilla.com). The location will be open Monday-Friday from 9 am-5 pm. We look forward to all the future networking, community involvement, and constituent contact this office in Aurora will help in providing.

### Upcoming Events

**Sustainable Clothing Drive:** From March 20th to April 24th clothing donations will be collected to increase awareness around sustainable fashion practices. Collections can be dropped off at our office at 946 N Neltnor Blvd, Suite 108, West Chicago, IL, 60185 from 9 am-7 pm, West Chicago High School also has a box for students to utilize or our Aurora Office at 1177 N Highland Ave, Suite 101, Aurora, IL, 60506 from 9 am-5 pm. All collected donations will go to Mutual Ground.



State Senator Karina Villa District Offices ♦ 946 N.Neltnor Blvd., #108, West Chicago ♦ 1177 N Highland Ave Ste. 101 Aurora  
[info@senatorvilla.com](mailto:info@senatorvilla.com) ♦ 630.326.9319 (English) 630.326.9419 (Spanish) ♦ (331) 465 9690 (Aurora)  
[SenatorVilla.com](http://SenatorVilla.com)

**Woof-A-Palooza:** On April 22nd from 10 am-1 pm at Anderson Humane Shelter (1000 S La Fox St, South Elgin, IL, 60177), join us with your furry friend to microchip them to enhance their ability to be found and returned, get a picture with them at our photo booth and bring donations for the shelter. Donation wish list here: [ahconnects.org](http://ahconnects.org)



## Welcoming Center Grants



Another round of funding has been announced for Welcoming Centers! Welcoming Centers work to be a one-stop social service shop for immigrants, new arrivals, and refugees within our communities. Organizations applying must be able to provide holistic case management and connection to resources while also being able to partner with other organizations in order to increase the capacity to welcome those to our communities. Grant awards vary by application and the deadline to submit a letter of intent is April 28, 2023, 12:00 p.m, funding will close May 12th. More information [can be found here](#).

## Illinois Access to Justice Grants (ILA2J)

Illinois Access to Justice (ILA2J) announced funding for legal services specializing in pro-bono legal services related to immigration and priority fields for those who have faced incarceration in communities such as housing, expungement, etc. They are also offering grant funding for community navigators to train and educate more community navigators which will assist in community education around knowledge of rights and resources. Grants will be directed toward communities that have faced mass incarceration and immigration. Find more information on what the grant entails [here](#). The letter of intent to apply is due 4/21, the application is due 5/5.

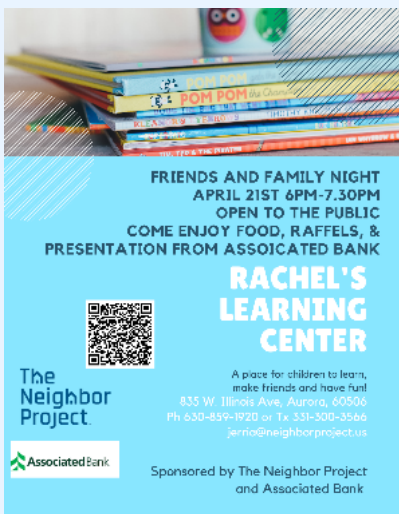


## Aurora Youth and Family Resource Fair



Bring the whole family out to the Prisco Community Center ( 150 W Illinois Ave, Aurora, IL, 60506) on April 27th from 6-8pm. There will be 45+ organizations that serve youth and families with many summer programs and activity offerings for this summer. Anyone under the age of 18 will be eligible for a free gift at the door, some of the prizes including a Nintendo Switch bundle, TV, ipads, gift cards, and more. There will be live music by DJ Raul and more local youth performances throughout the entirety of the event. Primos Tacos will be there for free tacos for those in attendance. It's worth stopping by to take advantage of all of the offerings while learning more about resources and programs for your family and kids.

# The Neighbor Project: Friends and Family Night



The Neighbor Project, Associate Bank, and Rachel's Learning Center are all partnering together to bring you Friends and Family Night! This event will include a seminar on purchasing a home and other bank services that are available, while providing fun activities for the kids. There will be food, raffles, and face painting available. The event is April 21st at 6pm at 835 W Illinois Ave, Aurora, IL, 60506. [Reserve your free spot here.](#)

Stay in Touch! Follow us on Social Media:



Facebook: [@StateSenatorKVilla](#)



Instagram: [@SenatorKarinaVilla](#)

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. To join these committees you can email the following for more information and meeting information:

- Environment/ 4th Thursday at 7pm / [environment.49th@gmail.com](mailto:environment.49th@gmail.com)
- Mental Health / 3rd Tuesday at 6pm / [mentalhealth.25th@gmail.com](mailto:mentalhealth.25th@gmail.com)
  - Seniors / 2nd Friday at 10am / [seniors.25th@gmail.com](mailto:seniors.25th@gmail.com)
  - Education / 2nd Thursday at 7pm / [education.49th@gmail.com](mailto: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 [constituentservices@senatorvilla.com](mailto:constituentservices@senatorvilla.com). Textline is (331)465-9690.

Be well!

Karina Villa, MSW  
State Senator, 25th District