



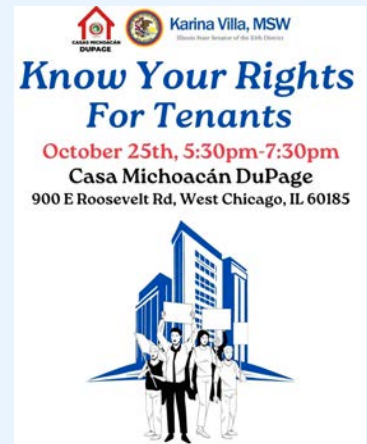
Newsletter

Know Your Rights, Exciting Updates and more!

I am very excited to share important information with you on upcoming events and recent updates. Later this month, I will be hosting two Know Your Rights events to educate our residents on their rights as tenants under a new law I championed earlier this year! Look out for local resources that will be helpful as we move into the colder months!

Know your Rights for Tenants

Our office is partnering with the Chicago Coalition to End Homelessness and to inform residents about their tenants' rights under the Landlord Retaliation Act, which goes into effect on Jan. 1, and share resources and housing providers and legal assistance. My office will be hosting two workshops in Aurora and West Chicago - both will be in English and Spanish. The West Chicago workshop will be held Friday, Oct. 25 at Casa Michoacán DuPage located at 900 E. Roosevelt Road from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Aurora workshop will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 30 at the Prisco Community Center located at 150 W. Illinois Ave. from 5:30-7:30 p.m. For more information, contact my West Chicago Office at 630-326-9319 for English or 630-326-9419 for Spanish, or my Aurora Office bilingual line at 331-465-9690.



#LovePurse Drive

This month, I am partnering with DuPage area legislators for a #LovePurse Drive to support women in need and survivors of domestic violence. My office is collecting donations of new purses and unused toiletries such as feminine hygiene products, deodorant, soap, lotion, socks, face masks, compact mirrors, floss, lip balm and nail files, along with other items. Donations can be dropped off at my West Chicago Office located at 946 N. Neltnor Blvd., Suite. 108. until Oct. 31.



World Language Career Expo with WAHS Students

Last week, I had the pleasure of attending West Aurora High School's World Language Career Expo. I had a great time connecting with students and discussing the importance of being bilingual in public service settings and how my staff and I apply the use of multiple languages to our work daily. Being bilingual is an asset that should be celebrated and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to encourage these bilingual students!



Legislative Updates

Elgin Sports Complex Expansion

Bringing resources to our community is the most fulfilling part of my work as a legislator and earlier this month, many efforts came into fruition with the groundbreaking of the Elgin Sports Complex Expansion Project. I was able to secure \$1 million in funding to support the expansion with a grant through the Rebuild Illinois program. The project will update the complex with three new synthetic turf fields, a new playground, walking trails, bike path, updated amenities and more. The project also includes infrastructure improvements for parking areas and a new roadway connecting the complex to Illinois Route 31.



These investments are critical to enrich the lives of people in our community. I am excited to see our Latino community take advantage of the new fields to play soccer as the sport is an integral part of our culture. It was an honor to help facilitate this project!

State and Local Resources

Aurora Flu Clinic

Ascension Mercy, Family Focus Aurora and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights are hosting a flu clinic to provide vaccines to adults 18 and up on Oct. 19 from 12-2 p.m. at 1444 N. Farnsworth Ave. in Aurora. For more information contact Veronica Lara at 630-256-7010 or Cristina Vargas at 630-256-7013.



Medicaid/SNAP Workshop

Family Focus Aurora and Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights are also partnering to offer a Medicaid and SNAP workshop on Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 1444 N. Farnsworth Ave. in Aurora. The organizations will be assisting individuals with applications for Medicaid and SNAP. People must bring proof of income for one month, ID, proof of address, social security of any person that applies and birth certificates of children included in the application. For more information contact Family Focus staff, Veronica Lara at 630-256-7010 or Cristina Vargas at 630-256-7013.



LIHEAP Applications Now Open

Low Income Energy Assistance Program applications are now open! The program provides income eligible families with assistance with their utility bill. Funding is available now for seniors, people with disabilities and families with children under age 6. Find out if you're eligible and apply today by visiting HelpIllinoisFamilies.com.



Girls Lead Mentorship Program

The Girls Lead Mentorship Program, organized by the office of Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton, is accepting applications for both mentors and mentees! This initiative connects girls from fifth grade to high school with women leaders across Illinois, offering hands-on experience in public service. Applications close soon. The deadline to apply is Oct. 20! Learn more about the program and apply [here](#).



Our office 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 in order to provide effective representation. To join these committees you can email the following for more information and meeting information:

- Environment / 1st Wednesday at 7pm / environment.25th@gmail.com
- Mental Health / 3rd Tuesday at 6pm / mentalhealth.25th@gmail.com
- Seniors / 2nd Thursday at 10am / seniors.25th@gmail.com
- Education / 2nd Thursday at 7pm / education.25th@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 (331)465-9690 constituentservices@senatorvilla.com.

Stay in Touch! Follow us on Social Media: [Facebook: @StateSenatorKVilla](#) , [Instagram: @SenatorKarinaVilla](#).

Be well!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karina Villa".

Karina Villa, MSW
State Senator, 25th District