

Mayor Sheila Chalmers-Currin

Her leadership began in 1999 when she was appointed by then-Mayor Stricker of the Village of Matteson as the Fire and Police Commissioner of Matteson Illinois. This was an appointed volunteer position. In recognition of the great work she did in Matteson, she moved on to become the Director of The Fire and Police Commission for the State of Illinois. Sheila was elected as the first African American female to become the President of the Fire and Police Commission for the State of Illinois. While serving as President, Sheila was awarded the most prestigious Doc Wilson award for advancing the organization by implementing budget changes and adjustments to balance to overall organizations budgets.

Sheila was also selected to be a part of the Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership, an institute that trains women to run for political office. After the preparation of IWIL, Sheila began to use her knowledge and skills gained from the Institute to pursue politics. While in IWIL Sheila was introduced to the then US Senator Barack Obama. She was selected by Senator Obama to serve on his selection commission on the US Military Academies. She also served on Obama's Presidential Campaign as the coordinator of voter's registration. Sheila coordinated groups to travel to Indiana to register citizens to vote. Sheila also held the position of Senior Advisor/ Director of External Affairs for former Lieutenant Governors Sheila Simons.

After assisting other political figures in office, Sheila began planning and organizing her Campaign for Trustee of the Village of Matteson and won. She served in the role of Trustee for a total of eight years. While serving as Trustee she was appointed the Chairwoman of the Economic Development Committee for the Village of Matteson. In 2017 Sheila received the paramount leadership role, being elected Mayor, of the Village of Matteson. Sheila is a proud member of the Southland Regional Mayoral Black Caucus and most recently in 2020 was Elected Delegate to the National nominating convention, second congressional district for the democratic party and was listed on the Presidential Ballot as a Biden Delegate. In March of 2021 Sheila was appointed to serve on the Board of Directors for the Cook County Land Bank by Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle. Executive Board Member of South Suburban Mayors and Managers (SSMMA), and most recently, selected by the nominating committee to become a Board Member of Illinois Municipal League (IML) serving as Vice President.

Sheila is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. She puts her heart and soul into everything that she does. Her devotion to scholarship is a pillar of her sorority's foundation. Her unwavering compassion she has extended and continues to extend towards others is exactly what her vision is about.

The following are notable awards Sheila has received for her leadership in the community:

Distinguished Alumni 2021 - Roosevelt University

Women of Excellence 2019 – National Foundation for Women Legislators

Women of Excellence 2018 - Chicago Defender

Women of Excellence in Politics 2017 Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

Elected Official of the Year 2017 – Chamber 57

Sheila is a graduate of Governors State University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication. She received her Master of Science in Integrated Marketing Communications from Roosevelt University. She is a past member of the Human Resource Development Institute (HRDI) where she served as Board of Director. This organization provides mental health services, substance abuse treatment, alternative youth education, and prevention of domestic violence.

Her journey started early in life and continues today, and she will continue to fight on behalf of family, friends, and those unknown to her. Every day, she has a chance to make a difference in the lives of others and for that she is truly grateful for the opportunity of being elected Mayor for two consecutive terms.