

InterFaith Works Introduces its New Chair of the Board

We are pleased to present Linda Ervin as 2025 Chair of InterFaith Works' Board of Directors. Ms. Ervin accepted this position in April, after serving as the Vice-Chair of the Board for 3 years and completing the term of office for Myrna Koldin, who had to step down from the chairwomanship due to family needs. Ms. Koldin will remain on the Board.

Mrs. Ervin is well-equipped to lead the organization's Board through these challenging times. She served on InterFaith Works' Board from 2015 through 2022, took a one-year pause as required by our bylaws, and then rejoined the Board in 2023. She has walked with us through the previous reductions in refugee resettlement, through COVID-19, and through the successful Capacity Growth Campaign that has provided the financial and organizational strength that now holds the agency in good stead through this time of federal cuts. She recently retired as Onondaga County Legislator for District 17, after serving 14 years, and she served as Democratic Floor Leader of the Onondaga County Legislature. She was the first Black female to hold the position of Floor Leader.

In addition to serving our agency, Mrs. Ervin is a member of the Catholic Charities Board and an Emeritus member of the Hospice of Central NY Board. She is a past president of the Time of Jubilee/ Jubilee Homes of Syracuse boards where she served almost 30 years as a board member. She is a Past President of the DeWitt Rotary Club and currently serves as Assistant General Area 6 for Rotary District 7150. She is an active member of the Dunbar American Legion Post 1642 Auxiliary. She also serves on the Upstate Medical University Advisory Council by appointment of the Governor.

Among her many awards for her activism and service are the *Syracuse Post-Standard* Achievement Award, YWCA Diversity Achievers Award, Central NY School Boards Association Outstanding Service Award, the House of Providence Humanitarian Award with her husband for their service to the community, the Delta Sigma Theta Fortitude Award, AKA Community Service Award, NAACP Youth Image Award for Civic Engagement, NCNW Community Service Award, NY State Comptroller Proclamation for outstanding service, and the Concerned Citizens Outstanding Public Service Award.

Mrs. Ervin is a Hopps Memorial CME Church member and is president of the Steward Board. She is a member and past president of the Syracuse NY Chapter of Links Inc, a service organization, a member of Syracuse Silhouettes (auxiliary of Syracuse Alumni Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity), and a member of

Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority, a business and professional women's organization. Currently, she serves as a national officer of Lambda Kappa Mu.

Mrs. Ervin is married to Marion Ervin. They have 2 adult children and 3 grandchildren. She and her husband were family foster parents of 3 active children for years and continue to mentor many other young people in the community. She has a deep passion for community service, helping young people, and ensuring that underserved communities have the opportunities they deserve.

Mrs. Ervin is a native of Tuckahoe, New York, a graduate of Tuckahoe High School, and holds a BA degree in Psychology from Syracuse University.