My name is Renita Davis. I am a servant leader with 20 plus years of service to the community and workplace; the founder and owner of International Community Hope Project, LLC (ICHP), a Published Author, an Education Consultant, Speaker, and Coach.

**I have decided to run for the position with the Board of Trustees at the College of Lake County to continue my passion for serving the community, helping to identify equitable opportunities, and removing systemic barriers preventing success for all.**

The College of Lake County has been a part of my growing up in this area. From high school attending the Tech Campus to taking courses and training to advance my career growth. I have watched this community college expand and grow, increasing its value to the families in my community and Lake County. As an African American female living in the community and utilizing the community college resources, the six pillars of the college's strategic plan help build a positive learning environment for all students.

* Access and Success
* Equity and Inclusion
* Teaching and Learning Excellence
* Community and Workforce Partnership
* Collaborative Culture
* Strategic Use of Resources

Richard Guarasci discusses in his book "Neighborhood Democracy: A Model for Building Anchor Partnerships Between Colleges and Their Communities," he implies that to connect with the community, institutions of high learning successfully must become an agent of civic prosperity and national advancement, becoming "national actors to realize racial equity, social justice and the dream long deferred democracy for all." As a Board of Trustee Candidate, this is my charge. To incorporate the six pillars to produce a student with the capacity to follow their dreams, change, and encourage reciprocity.

As a 20-plus-year Social Worker, the mental strength of a person is significant to me. Environmental stressors and experiences play a major role in increasing educational success for all students. As a person who continues in self education, I have a dual viewpoint advantage. As a Board of Trustee Member, I will continue to support the professionals within the college who continue to provide a sense of belonging for each student.

In Carol Dweck's book Mindset: The New Psychology of Success. She talks about self-insight, how we view ourselves, and our capacity for how we view others and rate ourselves. Students of all ethnic backgrounds come to the campus with dreams and aspirations of success. Our educators and faculty must assist by providing equitable access to resources that will move them forward.

Recognizing learning styles, learning environment, and learning access. Equity requires a level playing field for all, which means providing individualized attention to all students. Martin Luther King Jr stated, “the function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” As a board member, I plan to support professionals dedicated to breaking down barriers that impede individual student learning experiences. An example would be needing to fully understand the differences between their previous school life and college life, the expectations, requirements, and responsibilities. Equity also includes providing an environment where faculty feel supported and part of the learning process.

When our student body takes hold of these attributes, fostered by the faculty, staff, and board, they can go into the classroom with a goal. They can apply themselves, feeling secure in their selection to attend the College of Lake County and that the education they will receive will be equitable and sustainable.

**Education:**

* Grambling State University (Grambling La)
* Barat College (Lake Forest, IL)
* George Williams School of Social Work at Aurora University (Aurora, IL)
* American College of Education (Indianapolis, IN)
* Licensed Certified Professional Coach trained by an ICF accredited program
* Licensed Positive Parenting Educator
* Licensed Anger Management Specialist.

 **Degrees:**

* Masters in Educational Leadership and Social Work
* Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Accounting.

**Certifications:**

* Type 73 and 75 certifications,
* CWEL (Child Welfare Employee License) and CERAP (Child Endangerment Risk Assessment Protocol) certified.
* CBITS (Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools) Certified (2020)
* Homeless Liaison (2021-2022).
* Charmm’d Leadership Academy Program (2021)
* Lean Six Sigma White Belt (2021).