

Former School Board Member and Public Service Champion Tara Shephard Announces for House District 79

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Little Rock, Arkansas - Tara Shephard, who has spent more than twenty years working on behalf of juvenile justice in Arkansas, announces her candidacy for District 79. A former Little Rock School Board member, Tara Shephard has served as a Compliance & Accreditation Manager with the Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center since 2001. An author, mental health advocate, substance-abuse counselor, suicide-prevention trainer, founder of a community based non profit, educator, and social justice advocate, Tara matches her heart for public service with a relentless work ethic.

"I have given my life to public service and worked hard to take advantage of every opportunity that has been afforded me. Over the past twenty years, I have built a record of trust, a record of results, and a record of positive impact. I believe these experiences have prepared me to serve our community as our next State Representative," said Tara Shephard. "If the voters of District 79 choose to honor me with this opportunity, I will not let them down. I am going to work hard for every vote and I will work with anyone to move Arkansas forward."

Democratic Senator Linda Chesterfield offered a gracious statement of encouragement after hearing of her announcement. "Tara has been a champion for the youth of our state both through her work with At-Promise Girls and her service on the Little Rock School Board. She will be a fierce advocate for her district and an asset to the state of Arkansas."

Tara attended Hall High, received her undergrad degree from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, and a masters in Criminal Justice from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is the proud mother of two children, who attend Little Rock public schools. Tara is member of Second Baptist Church on John Barrow.

A Heart for Public Service & A Tireless Work Ethic

Tara Shephard has spent her life working to make a positive impact in Arkansas.

- Former Board Director, Little Rock School District
- Founder, At-Promise Girls Mentoring Program
- Organizer, Suicide Prevention Workshops at the Willie Hinton Center

- Organizer, School To Prison Pipeline Workshops
- Member, Arkansas Democratic Black Caucus
- Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- Member, American Association of University Women (AAUW)
- Member, League of Women Voters
- Member, American Correctional Association
- Leader, Arkansas movement to recognize March as Women's History Month

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