



MS. CHIPPELLA DAIMA SWIN LEWIS

Good evening esteemed Howard County Council Members, The Howard County Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission and the Office of Human Rights and Equity.

It is an honor and privilege to stand before you tonight.

My name is Chippella Daima Swin Lewis. My PRO- NOUN is Queenmother. According to certain African tribes' and their communal practices - Queenmother is a term used to describe specific female leaders who serve in influential roles in local government, influencing social, political, and cultural norms.

The late Great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said – “Everyone can be great because Everyone can serve!”

Like many servant leaders in this room, on-line and abroad, service is not merely what I do. Service is who I am. Service is what I practice- what I teach. Service is what I believe in.

Each day I strive to make conscious efforts to develop and exemplify good character, live out integrity, stand for social justice, advocate for the voiceless and empower others to do the same. I am committed to a lifestyle of serving my community and partnering with others who have taken the same just stand.

I am a Native of the “Excelsior-Ever Upward” Melting Pot State- of New York. I migrated to the “strong deeds, gentle words” Blue Crab State- of Maryland in

September of 2009. Since December of 2018 I live, love, and serve in the renowned "Choose Civility"- Howard County.

As a voting resident and member of Howard County I am a visionary, who is compassionate, takes initiative, and is committed to engaging, empowering, educating and elevating our community. As a member with the Howard County NAACP Community Garden Project- I am committed to the promotion of growing clean food for our residents. As an active member with the Columbia MD Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated- I am aligned and POWERD up with other Queenmothers serving Howard County through programs that provide scholarships for our students, educate those seeking financial literacy and partner with community organizations as we provide a host of services to our elderly, low income and marginalized groups.

Partnering with the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission grants me more privilege to continue working with youth who are developing into future Public Service Leaders.

Partnering with the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission allows me to share the wealth of skills and experiences honed as a Parent, Grassroots/Community Organizer, Advocate, Social Activist, Educator, Minister of Hospitality along with decades of civic engagement & leadership.

Today as I choose civility, through the implementation of strong deeds and gentle words to support the ever upward movement of the Howard County Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission. "Everyone can be Great, because Everyone can serve!" (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Thank you for your consideration of me, for this appointment.