Karen Darch Village President Barrington, Illiniois

Karen Darch is the Village President of Barrington and an active community leader and public servant.

Having served as Village President since 2005, and previously as Trustee, Karen has served the Village of Barrington since 1995. She was recently elected President of the Illinois Municipal League. She serves as a Board Member for the Barrington Area Council of Governments, and serves on the Executive Committee for the Northwest Municipal Conference after previously serving as President, Vice President, and Legislative Chair. She also serves on the Executive Committee for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, previously serving as Chair. She was appointed to serve on the Governor's Bicentennial Celebration Commission, his Consolidation and Unfunded Mandates Task Force, and as Co-Chair of his Local Government Transition Subcommittee.

Karen serves on the Development Council for Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital. She is a Boy Scout Merit Badge counselor for Citizenship badges, and is active at her church, Saint Anne Catholic Church in Barrington, as a children's liturgist. She served as President of the Barrington Junior Women's Club and Co-Chair of the Safety Town Permanent Site Project, President of the Saint Anne School Parent Teacher Organization, and as a Member of the PTO Presidents' Council for Barrington School District 220.

Prior to dedicating herself full time to community service, Karen worked as a planning associate for the Chicago Hospital Council and as an attorney at the Overgaard and Davis law firm in Chicago. She earned her Bachelor's Degree from the College of William and Mary and her JD from the University of North Carolina School of Law. She has been admitted to the Illinois Bar and still has an active attorney's license.

Karen has lived in Barrington since 1985. She has been married to her husband, Douglas, for 36 years. They have six children, all of whom were born in Barrington, attended Saint Anne's School, and graduated from Barrington High School, her youngest having graduated in 2016. Karen is an avid sports fan, so when not busy volunteering to serve the community you can usually find her watching teams compete at the high school, college, and professional level. She also enjoys cooking and baking for guests.