

**Name:**

Arvina Martin

**Office running for:**

Madison Common Council, District 11

**Professional Experience:**

I have worked in the public sector for the majority of my professional career. This work has included legislative and administrative work at the city, county, state, federal and tribal levels. While I worked at the WI Department of Transportation, I helped implement a pilot program in the St Croix Tribal Community to conduct condensed training similar to TrANS program, to allow people who are unable to complete a full TrANS program due to their employment, so that they have the opportunity to work in the construction field. I have also worked on political campaigns, including the 2012 Obama campaign, 2016 Clinton campaign, and the 2020 Biden campaign. In 2012 and 2020, I was the Native Outreach Director, and was responsible for organizing and engaging Native people in Wisconsin. In 2016, I was a Voter Protection Fellow, and was responsible for disseminating important information about how and when to vote, as well as helping to organize poll watcher volunteers across the state. While I worked in Representative Hesselbein's office, in addition to standard constituent and committee work, I ran the Assembly Democratic Caucus's Intern and Fellowship programs, including screening applicants, interviewing potential interns and assigning them to district offices. I also worked to inform and attract students in other academic fields and backgrounds, to diversify our pool.

**Political/Service Experience**

I have been an active and involved member of the Democratic Party since the "Act 10 Days," and quickly went from an intern to Native Organizer as soon as the recall began. Since then, I've served as Chair, Secretary, and Vice Chair (the position I hold today) of the Native American Caucus for the DPW. I have also served as a member of the DPW Admin Committee. I previously served as a Board Member of NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin, and currently serve on the boards of director for the Madison Youth Choirs and Future Problem Solvers of Wisconsin.

**Why are you running in this election?**

The effects of this pandemic have been far reaching, and we've been hindered by the State Legislature and the previous Presidential Administration. I want to help Madison deal with substantial budget cuts, while also dealing with a public health emergency and a less than desirable economic situation. Many of our residents are facing emergencies, whether it involves the Coronavirus, the loss of a job, or housing insecurity. While I hope that more Federal funding will come through the new Presidential Administration, I want to help make sure that we use the available funding to help as many as we can, in the most efficient manner as possible.

I also have worked on the Crisis Response pilot program, that will send paramedics and other mental health professionals to calls for "Check Persons" or certain mental health emergencies, rather than police officers. Other municipalities with similar programs report not only better outcomes for those who experience mental health emergencies, but also substantial financial

savings. I am very excited for our continued work between the City, the County and other stakeholders, and can't wait to see how this policy can help Madisonians.

District 11 also is experiencing a boom in terms of development, and it is important to me to work on these projects to ensure that they meet our standards as well as the neighbors' standards. With these projects, and with the anticipated population growth we will be experiencing, I want to make sure that we are updating our transportation systems to accommodate increased use. Bus Rapid Transit is an exciting project that will be routed through District 11, and I want to be sure that improvements like BRT will increase traffic and pedestrian safety, and reduce the need for cars, therefore reducing the amount of pollutants produced.