

Voting and 2020 Census June 10, 2020



## **Opening Remarks**

Karen Francois, Deputy County Manager Information and Public Records



# **Ramsey County Vision and Mission**

# Vision

A vibrant community where all are valued and thrive.

# Mission

A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life



## **Ramsey County Values**

Ramsey County is a welcoming, accessible and inclusive organization. Our core values define our culture. They guide who we are as a county, our individual behaviors and operational decisionmaking.





## Disclaimer

- This Town Hall is being recorded.
- We are recording for documentation and language/translation purposes.
- We cannot get into specifics about client cases or discuss private and confidential information about residents we serve on this town hall.



## **Town Hall Agenda**

- Opening Remarks Karen Francois, Deputy County Manager
- 2020 Census Overview Jolie Wood, Policy Analyst
- Voting Overview
   Heather Bestler, Deputy Director
   David Triplett, Manager of Elections
- Discussion with Community Lidiya Girma, Policy Analyst
- Closing & Next Steps
   PrinceAndrew Corbett, Racial & Health Equity
   Administrator



## Virtual Town Hall Agreements

- Keep your phone and/or device on mute if you are not speaking.
- Listen actively -- respect others when they are talking.
- Speak from your own experience instead of generalizing ("I" instead of "they," "we," and "you").
- Do not be afraid to respectfully challenge one another by asking questions but refrain from personal attacks -- focus on ideas.
- Participate to the fullest of your ability -- community growth depends on the inclusion of every individual voice.
- The goal is not to agree -- it is to gain a deeper understanding.
- Step up and Step Back!



## **Town Hall Purpose & Expectations**

- Share the resources and services that are available to those in need throughout Ramsey County.
- Answer questions from the community about the voting and 2020 Census
- Ramsey County will work to act on and be responsive to the needs and questions of community through action, follow-up, and updates on progress.



## 2020 Census Overview Jolie Wood, Ph.D.



## 2020 Census

- Responding to the 2020 Census is more important than ever.
- Everyone counts—citizen or not, documented or not. If you live here, you count.
- A complete count is necessary for equal political representation. The census is crucial to equity!
- Census data is also used to provide funding for schools, hospitals, and critical social programs like Medicaid, SNAP, and school lunches.
- Your personal data is confidential. It can't be shared with other government agencies or used in court.



## 2020 Census

- The Census Bureau has made adjustments due to COVID-19.
- Beginning in mid-August, census workers will visit households that haven't self-responded.
- Census workers will wear protective gear and be trained to minimize contact.
- If you do not want them to visit your home, please send in your paper form or go online: <u>www.my2020census.gov</u>



## **Voting Overview** (David Triplett and Heather Bestler)



### **Absentee voting**



In-person absentee voting starts June 26:

- Plato Building
- Ramsey County Library - Roseville
- New Brighton Community Center

Offering translation and accessible services

Visit mnvotes.org for more information



## **Election Day Voting**

Providing a safe voting experience:

- Public Health social distancing standards
- Hand sanitizer stations
- Election Judges will be wearing masks
- Masks provided for voters who choose to wear them
- Single-use pens for voters
- Streamlined processes requiring fewer touches





## Sign Up to be an Election Judge

Election judges staff local polling places for the primary and general election as well as during early voting. You can earn money, meet your neighbors and help ensure that elections are administered in a fair manner.

Call 651-266-2171 for more information or to sign-up or visit us at RCelections.org



## **Questions for Residents**

- What are your concerns about voting during COVID?
  - What would help you feel more safe while casting your ballot?



# Community Discussion and

**Questions & Answers** 



# **Community Resources & Next Steps**

Prince Corbett, Racial & Health Equity Administrator



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#### Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Information



#### County Services & Initiatives

Ramsey County government remains open and continues to provide services.

Service delivery information

Form drop-off and walk-in assistance sites

Justice system collaboration and response



#### Health Information

Information about symptoms, prevention and who to contact for health questions and assistance.

COVID-19 health information

Questions and help

Daily COVID-19 situation update dashboard

Materials, posters and videos

Cloth face coverings





#### **Translated Materials**

Materials are available in Spanish, Hmong, Karen and Somali.

Español

Hmoob

Karen

Soomaali







ramseycounty.us/coronavirus



## County COVID-19 Customer Contact Center

• (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday)

#### • <u>651-266-8500</u>

- Ramsey County's Customer Contact Center is a one-stop option for directing and resolving resident inquires via phone, email, social media and other means.
- Ramsey County's office phone lines are open during regular hours. If you receive a busy signal or message when calling it's because of the heavy cell phone call volume in the Twin Cities metro area.
- If possible, please try calling from a landline phone or a cell phone connected to another mobile carrier.



#### Clinical Services - 651-266-4444

https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/assistance-support/assistance/financial-assistance

Family Health Nurse Home Visiting- 651-266-1568 https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/health-medical/clinics-services/family-home-visiting

**WIC** – for an appointment 651-266-1300. ramseycounty.us/WIC

Child and Teen Check-Ups- 651-266-2420 ramseycounty.us/CTC

**Domestic Abuse Resources -** 24-hour crisis line 651-645-2824 <u>https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/assistance-support/protection-crisis-resources/domestic-abuse</u>



#### Financial Assistance - 651-266-4444

https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/assistance-support/assistance/financial-assistance

Employment Assistance - 651-266-9890

https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/assistance-support/employment-assistance-0

**Housing Services & Support -** for supportive housing info call 651-215-2262. ramseycounty.us/housingsupport

**Veterans Services -** 651-266-2545 ramseycounty.us/veterans



#### **Mental Health Resources**

Adult Mental Health Crisis Line: 651-266-7900 Children's Mental Health Crisis Line: 651-266-7878 <u>ramseycounty.us/mentalhealth</u>

#### **Food Resources**

Call the Minnesota Food Help Line - 888-711-1151 - connect to SNAP, WIC or other food resources. Interpreters are available.

ramseycounty.us/foodresources

#### Immigration - Legal Defense & Wrap Around Services

https://www.ramseycounty.us/your-government/projects-initiatives/immigrationlegal-defense-wrap-around-services



#### **Technology Help**

Computer and Tech Help Appointments by Phone - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12-2 p.m.

Call 651-724-6001 (press #2) to schedule your half-hour telephone appointment. <u>https://www.rclreads.org/technology-help/</u>

#### **Modified Library Service**

Curbside pickup is available at the Maplewood, (651-724-6003, Press 3), Roseville (651-724-6001, Press 3) or Shoreview (651-724-6006, Press 3) Home Delivery is available for some residents of suburban Ramsey County. <u>https://www.rclreads.org/news/rcl-closed-fag/</u>



A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life.

# Thank you!

Contact Information: racialequity@ramseycounty.us