



Verla Insko

Verla Insko has served Chapel Hill and Orange County as a volunteer activist and an elected official in state and local agencies. Through her dedication and commitment, she has made a difference in the community and the lives of the citizens of the area.

As a newcomer to Chapel Hill in 1965, Verla found Chapel Hill to be a university-centered town, with “a lot of good ideas and people following through on them.” She got involved to build on the progress already made to integrate public schools and expand human services and has witnessed the town grow to become more urban, diverse and progressive.

Verla’s community activism led to two terms on the Chapel Hill Carrboro Board of Education, where she advocated for services for special needs students, and four years on the Orange County Board of Commissioners. She led the OWASA Board of Directors as the Cane Creek Reservoir was completed and opened. She also served on the board of directors for the Orange County Women’s Center and the Orange County Partnership for Young Children.

In 1999, she was elected to represent Orange County in the North Carolina General Assembly and is currently running for her tenth term. She has been an outspoken advocate for improvements in public

education, preschool through the UNC system, and has won numerous awards for her accomplishments in public education, public health and services to people with mental illness.

Verla hopes that Chapel Hill will continue to embrace and carry its history and activism into the future, including continued efforts toward a greater sense of equality among the town's population. She has seen a great many changes in her time in Chapel Hill, and her love of the community and hope for its future continue to push her in her work.

Coming to Chapel Hill in an era when "opportunities were there and people made things happen," she understands the value of learning from mistakes and adapting to the changing world. Describing herself as "blessed with good health and a lot of energy," she embodies the continuing growth and development of Chapel Hill, standing as another in a long line of visionary leaders.