

August 14, 2022

Mrs. Bonnie Ballard,

- Fierce but humble
- direct but compassionate
- dedicated caring and sincere

Mrs. Ballard has led the NAACP, Rock Island Branch for almost two years as our president. During that time, even through the Covid Pandemic, she has motivated her executive committee and members to get involved and to stay involved. Her efforts can be seen through our various events and activities throughout the community. The Rock Island Branch has worked hard to get our community to think about their health, participate in community events, support local churches, register to vote and pay close attention to those running for local, state, and National offices. In addition, Mrs. Ballard got our Freedom Fund Banquet up and running again after being cancelled due to Covid-19.

She strongly believes in being fair and recognizing all who have worked hard. So, if you attended our banquet, you were able to see those who were recognized came from a variety of backgrounds and made major contributions to our community. She also is very passionate about kids and ensuring they have access to a quality education, thus the multitude of scholarship recipients. We awarded 19 \$500 scholarships to young people headed to college from The Rock Island County. Mrs. Ballard is extremely transparent. All who serve on her executive team knows she is very serious about helping everyone who needs our help. I'm certain under her leadership the NAACP, Rock Island branch will continue to grow, continue to fight, and continue to serve for years to come.

Lastly, she is an awesome Mentor. I have personally had the pleasure of receiving valuable advice, needed support, and just real talk. I feel very privileged knowing I can call her at any time to discuss whatever concerns me. She is a blessing to our community and the NAACP. She represents the epitome of a true leader. She has a vision and goal, and she is determined to make things happen regardless of how anybody else feels about it.

God bless her!

Dr. Yolanda K. Grandberry-Pugh

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

[Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

