

Are You Working Today Mama?

Kim Easter

"Are you working today, mama?" asks my three-year old. My leaving the house and working two days a week is new for all of us. I have been home full-time with my kids for eight years. Being a full-time stay-at-home Mom has been the most satisfying-and challenging-occupation I have ever had.

"Am I going to preschool today, mama?" Everyone in the family is adjusting to new situations, different schedules, and above all more separation from me. With my youngest just three years old, the adjustment isn't always easy. I would not leave the house for just any job.

But I don't have just any job. I get to work for one of the most dynamic and exciting women in Michigan: State Representative Rebekah Warren. Rep. Warren represents the district in which I live, the 53rd, whose boundaries approximate those of the City of Ann Arbor.

I started on April 1 (no fooling!) and it has been a whirlwind of excitement ever since. Every day our office addresses matters as diverse as toy safety, credit card interest rates, individual unemployment problems, and any other issue a constituent might bring up.

It is especially satisfying to work for a legislator who cares about issues that matter to me personally. In fact, Rep. Warren has been awarded the "Legislator of the Year" award by the Michigan National Organization for Women. She is celebrated for her leadership in protecting reproductive choice and promoting unwanted pregnancy prevention strategies for the women of Michigan.

I feel very fortunate to find myself again working for a strong, accomplished and kind woman whom I respect and admire, doing work for important causes that I support.

When my kids ask, "what did you do today at work, mama?" I love to tell them about the ways we try to help people in our community. I hope every lawyer returning to work after years at home can say that.

Thank you for your article Kim! Any WLAM member who would like to submit an article, may email the article to either co-chair of the C&T Committee at Elizabeth@YourBenchMarkCoach.com or mxrivas@aol.com.