



## **OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton

### **Illinois Council on Women and Girls**

To the residents of the State of Illinois,

As we draft this mid-year report for 2020, we are living in uncertain times. From the emergence of a global pandemic to the news of George Floyd's murder, major events that have significant repercussions for Illinois women and residents in general have transpired in the last six months. To our front-line workers, we would like to express our gratitude for your continued service and hard work as we continue the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

These historic events have impacted each one of us in unimaginable ways. While we can no longer meet in-person, the members of this Council have remained committed to the necessary work to build a better future for Illinoisans as we navigate these unprecedented challenges.

In the wake of George Floyd's murder, the Council created the Ad Hoc Committee on Police Brutality and Systemic Racism, which was requested to draft a letter to be delivered to state leaders. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, the Council held a special meeting so that members could review the letter produced by the Committee. After careful review, the Council voted to approve the letter at the end of the meeting.

The letter you are currently reading serves as a mid-year report for the work of the Illinois Council on Women and Girls, per 20 ILCS 5130/30.

As we continue our policy and advisory work, we shall file a comprehensive end of year report. This report will be sent to the Governor and General Assembly in addition to being made accessible for review by all Illinois residents via the website hosted by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Sincerely,

The Illinois Council on Women and Girls