



February 19, 2024

Dear Branch Presidents:

In times of change, it is crucial that we unite by fostering a spirit of collaboration and understanding. Together, I am confident that we will address the challenges that lie ahead with resilience and determination as we forge ahead to continue advocating for all citizens. I am humbled and honored to serve as President of the Illinois State Conference of the NAACP, entrusted with the responsibility to guide our Illinois State Conference through this period of transition. As we navigate these uncertain times, I pledge to uphold the mission and vision of the NAACP, ensuring that the voices of the people are heard and respected.

A new dawn comes every day. I encourage all members of our respective branches to look ahead to this reemergence, by facing the future and collectively seeking sustainable solutions to our challenges through patience and understanding. We must unite for the benefit of our members, and the greater good of our communities. I invite all members to join us to conquer our existing challenges while we rebuild relationships through the innovation and exploration of new opportunities. Together, we can do anything. Our work is not always received with a lot of fanfare. Sometimes it's lonely work; sometimes it's hard work; sometimes it's frustrating work; but it's necessary work. I promise to do everything in my power to live up to the responsibilities of this position.

My commitment to serve as President stems from my firm belief in the greatness of our national organization, my faith in the Illinois State Conference and local communities, as well as my genuine desire to see us excel. We have exceptional officers and committee members, programs, and opportunities. Our focus will be on unity, inclusivity, and progress. I invite each officer and standing committee chair to contribute their ideas and efforts towards building a stronger, more prosperous future for our Illinois State Conference. In the coming days, let us work hand in hand to overcome obstacles and forge a path towards a better tomorrow.

Thank you and let us embark on this journey together.

Humbly Submitted,

*Theodis Pace*

Theodis Pace, President

Illinois State Conference of the NAACP

