



## State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY  
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET  
COLUMBIA 29201

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the people of the Palmetto State, I am pleased to welcome you to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Circle of Influence Leadership Summit.

South Carolina is home to incredible women like you who are changing our communities, our state, and our world for the better every day. As outstanding women leaders participating in this event, you have the opportunity to connect with and learn from fellow pacesetters in a variety of fields ranging from business and public service to medicine, education, and faith. With the theme, *Education: Access, Quality, Equity*, valuable information and insights will be offered during these two days that can improve lives for years to come. I hope you will continue to encourage, challenge, and celebrate other women while working together to push through boundaries, achieve your goals, and inspire others to be the best they can be.

I would also like to congratulate Captain Estelle T. Young on being selected as the winner of the 2016 Trailblazer Leadership Award. As one of Columbia's finest, Captain Young was an awesome mentor and public servant, and her contributions continue to make the community and our state an even better place to live, work, and learn.

I wish you all the best for a rewarding summit and hope everyone leaves feeling refreshed, renewed, and eager to persevere as leaders of today and trailblazers of tomorrow. God bless.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nikki".

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/kt