



## **Chartering a County Democratic Women's Organization Illinois Democratic Women**

### **What is a Charter?**

A charter is a local organization that reflects the goals and values of Illinois Democratic Women (IDW).

### **Why Charters?**

For several years, there have been repeated requests from local Democratic women's organizations to become an official part of Illinois Democratic Women. We believe that charters will:

- Strengthen and build community and brand recognition among Democratic women in Illinois
- Improve communication among Democratic women in Illinois
- Identify and train women to run for office
- Provide support for Democratic candidates and elected officials

### **Charter Relationship**

IDW desires to organize women throughout the state through a network of county or regional groups. Charters are distinct organizations that are recognized by IDW. Charter organizations will:

- Have mission and goals compatible with IDW, but adopt such Bylaws as best fit their local needs, providing they do not conflict with the Bylaws of IDW
- Have members support the ideals of the Democratic party
- Elect local officers
- Separately manage organization finances in compliance with the Illinois State Board of Elections
- Contribute percentage of dues collected to IDW
- Meet at least quarterly and offer programs for local Democratic women
- Adopt name – Illinois Democratic Women of \_\_\_\_\_ (except for existing branded organizations)

### **Ongoing Responsibilities**

To maintain active status, charter organizations will:

- Submit per person membership dues to IDW
- Maintain and provide updated membership list with member contact information
- Submit program information and news for dissemination through IDW email, website, and Facebook
- Provide annual report of activities
- File reports with the Illinois State Board of Elections (if required)
- Work with Regional Chair(s) to plan events, support candidates, and recruit/train women for office.

### **Benefits of Charter**

IDW will assist charter organizations with resources to develop and sustain membership, which may include information on prospective members (and inactive members if available), information on speakers and issues for programs of interest to Democratic women, and promotion of local events through email, website, and Facebook

### **How to Charter**

- Call a meeting of at least 10 interested people.
- Hold Charter Meeting
- Develop and adopt bylaws
- Hold Election Meeting
- Submit new charter application form



**Illinois Democratic Women  
New Charter Organization Application**

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of President: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of President: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number for President: H (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ C (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address for President: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Officers (include name, address, and email)

Vice President: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach additional sheet, if necessary, to include other officers.

Date Club was organized \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Members: \_\_\_\_\_

PER MEMBER FEE ENCLOSED (25% of local dues) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Officer Submitting Application)

Please return this application to the Pam Monetti, Co-President, PO Box 195, Bunker Hill, IL 62014, which will then be presented to the Executive Board of IDW. No charter is official until a list of members with addresses and per capita dues for each are received.