The MMIW Crisis

"The crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women is not new. It is more than an epidemic—instead is part of the spectrum of violence experienced by Native women. This crisis of MMIW has deep roots in colonization and genocide and can be attributed to the lack of legal protections as a result of the systematic erosion of tribal sovereignty stretching back more than 500 years." - National Indigenous Women's Resource Center
Building on last week's introduction to the MMIW crisis, here are the facts:

- In 2020, there were **5,293** reports of missing American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls; only **690** cases were logged in the federal missing person database.[1]
- Indigenous women are 2.5x as likely to experience violent crimes and 2x more likely to experience rape or sexual assault crimes.[1]
- Homicide is the #3 leading cause of death for Indigenous women 10-24 years old and the #5 leading cause of death for Indigenous women 25-34 years old.[1]
- 40% of victims of sex trafficking are identified as Indigenous women.[1]
- Unlike other racial groups, violence against Indigenous women is more likely to be perpetuated by someone outside their racial group.[2]
- More than 4 out of 5 Indigenous women have experienced violence in their lifetime.[1]

[[1] National Criminal Justice Training Center's National Statistics on Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls. [2] National Institute of Justice "Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and Men" report.]

Additional resource:
True Crime Arizona: The Forgotten (documentary)
This documentary shows the Indigenous women of Arizona that are disappearing and have yet to be put in the media. It highlights two separate cases and identifies missing and murdered Indigenous women's data.

Creator God, we pray for Love. We thank you for the love that these families and communities hold for their daughters, mothers, grandmothers, aunties, sisters, cousins, and friends. We mourn with them. We pray for all those whose lives are marked by trauma because of these murders and disappearances. Hold them in love, Great Spirit, and catch every tear that falls. Aho.