



THE BRIEN CENTER

Diversity • Equity • Inclusion

Your courage, our care.

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The DEI Committee will be celebrating the lives of inspiring national and Berkshire County individuals for Black History Month. A photo and a short synopsis of each of the 28 celebrants body of work will be posted each day of the month to the Brien Center community in a biographical series via the agency's Facebook and LinkedIn social media platforms.

Below is a video presentation of all 28 celebrants selected.

<https://youtu.be/g6OcwsPlrFU>

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Ableism: Stereotyping, prejudicial attitudes, discriminatory behavior, and social oppression toward people with disabilities to inhibit the rights and well-being of people with disabilities, which is currently the largest minority group in the United States (APA, 2021b; Bogart & Dunn, 2019).

Avoid using terms such as "special needs", "physically challenged", "mentally challenged", "handi-capable."

Use person-first or identity-first language as is appropriate for the community or person being discussed. The language used should be selected with the understanding that disabled people's expressed preferences regarding identification supersede matters of style. Avoid terms that are condescending or patronizing.

Questions/Comments/Suggestions for the DEI Committee ?
Contact Us: DEI@briencenter.org

W.E.B. Du Bois Birthday: February 23rd

William Edward Burghardt Du Bois was born in 1868 in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. He was a sociologist, socialist, historian, civil rights activist, Pan-Africanist, author, writer and editor. After completing graduate work at the University of Berlin and Harvard, where he was the first African American to earn a doctorate, he became a professor of history, sociology and economics at Atlanta University. Du Bois was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909.

**EDUCATION MUST
NOT SIMPLY TEACH
WORK - IT MUST
TEACH LIFE.**

(W E B Du Bois said)



Ally/Allies

People who recognize the unearned privilege they receive from society's patterns of injustice and take responsibility for changing these patterns. Being an ally is more than being sympathetic and feeling bad for those who experience discrimination. An ally is willing to act with, and for, others in pursuit of ending oppression and creating equality. Real allies (Akbar, 2020).