



# THE BRIEN CENTER

**Diversity • Equity • Inclusion • Belonging**

*Your courage, our care.*

## NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

In the United States, Black History Month is commemorated during the month of February. It began as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora, initially lasting a week before becoming a month-long observation in 1970. Since its inception, the Black community met the creation of Black History Month with an enthusiastic response; it prompted the creation of Black history clubs, an increase in interest among teachers, and progressive whites. Black History Month has also expanded beyond its initial acceptance in educational establishments. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), designates a theme each year. The 2025 Black History Month theme, "African Americans and Labor," highlights and celebrates the significant contributions of African Americans in all occupations and public service while acknowledging their past labor struggles.



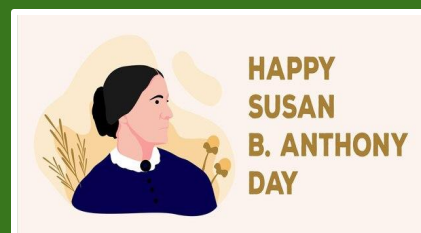
### INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Black and African American are not always interchangeable. Some individuals prefer the term Black because they do not identify as African and/or American. Some individuals may identify as African, Afro-Caribbean or Afro-Latino. Be specific when referencing a group; Black clients, Black students, Black faculty members, etc., not Blacks. Be mindful and really consider the necessity of using race as an identifier within your communications.

### SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY

Susan B. Anthony (born Susan Anthony; February 15, 1820 – March 13, 1906) was an American social reformer and women's rights activist who played a pivotal role in the women's suffrage movement. Born into a Quaker family committed to social equality, she collected anti-slavery petitions at the age of 17. In 1856, she became the New York state agent for the American Anti-Slavery Society.

In 1851, she met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who became her lifelong friend and co-worker in social reform activities, primarily in the field of women's rights. They initiated the American Equal Rights Association, which campaigned for equal rights for both women and African Americans.



### DEIB AWARENESS SESSION

On March 7th Annie Schwartz (MS, RDN, LDN) registered dietitian and size inclusivity advocate and consultant dedicated to challenging weight bias and advancing body liberation will conduct a session entitled "Beyond Bias: Embracing Size Diversity and Championing Equity for All Bodies." Weight stigma and anti-fat bias affect every aspect of our lives, from mental and emotional well-being to physical and financial health. This session will explore the pervasive impact of these biases, discuss the importance of size inclusion and the benefits of a Health at Every Size® approach. You'll gain tools to support and advocate for individuals in marginalized bodies while learning tangible strategies to challenge weight stigma and anti-fat bias in your daily life. Registration link below.

[briencenter.ticketleap.com/deib-awareness-session---march-25/](https://briencenter.ticketleap.com/deib-awareness-session---march-25/)

Questions/Comments/Suggestions for the DEI Committee?  
Contact Us: [DEI@briencenter.org](mailto:DEI@briencenter.org)