# *Diversity Events Calendar*
# *August 2026*

*August presents a valuable opportunity to celebrate the diverse backgrounds, cultures, identities, perspectives, and experiences that enrich our communities and workplaces. It serves as a reminder that diversity is one of our greatest strengths, and that fostering inclusion, belonging, and mutual respect benefits everyone.*

*At CPCS, these observances are not just dates on a calendar; they are chances for us to learn, reflect, and connect.*

*They encourage us to lead with empathy, listen with compassion, and deepen our understanding of the diverse communities we serve.*

*Throughout August, we recognize a variety of cultural, historical, religious, and awareness observances. These moments highlight individuals, milestones, and movements that have advanced equity, justice, inclusion, and human dignity.*

*By acknowledging these significant occasions, we reaffirm our commitment to equity, inclusion, belonging, and respect for all members of the CPCS community and the clients we serve.*

| ***Month-Long Observances*** | ***Focus / Why It Matters*** |
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| ***Boston North End Italian Feast & Processions*** | *A series of cherished Italian American religious festivals celebrating faith, heritage, family traditions, and community through processions, music, and cultural events.* |
| ***Black Business Month*** | *Celebrates the achievements, innovation, and economic contributions of Black-owned businesses while encouraging support for Black entrepreneurs.* |
| ***National Wellness Month*** | *Promotes physical, mental, and emotional well-being through healthy habits, self-care, and stress reduction.* |

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| ***National Civility Month*** | *Encourages kindness, respectful communication, and building inclusive, welcoming communities.* |
| ***National Minority Donor Awareness Month*** | *Highlights the importance of organ, eye, tissue, blood, and stem cell donation within multicultural communities.* |
| ***National Breastfeeding Month*** | *Raises awareness of maternal and infant health while supporting equitable access to breastfeeding resources.* |
| ***National Immunization Awareness Month*** | *Promote awareness of disease prevention, public health, and equitable access to recommended immunizations while encouraging informed healthcare decisions.* |

## *August Holidays and Anniversaries of Culturally Significant Events*

| *Date* | *Event / Observance* | *Focus / Why It Matters* |
|---|---|---|
| *August 1st* | ***Lammas (Lughnasadh)*** | *A Christian and Pagan harvest festival celebrating gratitude, abundance, and the beginning of the harvest season.* |
| *August 7th* | ***Purple Heart Day*** | *Honors military service members wounded or killed in combat and recognizes their sacrifice and courage.* |

| Date | Event / Observance | Focus / Why It Matters |
|---|---|---|
| *August 9th* | ***International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples*** | *Recognizes the cultures, traditions, languages, and rights of Indigenous peoples worldwide while raising awareness of the challenges they continue to face.* |
| *August 10th* | ***Ecuadorian Independence Day*** | *Commemorates Ecuador's declaration of independence in 1809 and celebrates the country's rich history, culture, and heritage.* |
| *August 12th* | ***International Youth Day*** | *Celebrates the voices, leadership, and contributions of young people in building a more just and inclusive world.* |
| *August 12-16th* | ***Fisherman's Feast (Boston North End)*** | *Celebrates Boston's Italian-American and Sicilian heritage through religious processions, cultural traditions, live music, and community festivities.* |
| *August 13th* | ***International Left-Handers Day*** | *Celebrating left-handed individuals and promotes awareness of accessibility, inclusion, and appreciation for individual differences.* |
| *August 15th* | ***Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*** | *A holy day commemorating the belief that Mary was assumed into heaven.* |

| Date | Event / Observance | Focus / Why It Matters |
|---|---|---|
| *August 13-16th* | ***Obon Festival (Japanese Buddhist tradition honoring ancestors)*** | *Honors ancestors through remembrance, family gatherings, lanterns, dance, and community celebrations.* |
| *August 17th* | ***Marcus Garvey Day*** | *Honors Jamaican National Hero Marcus Garvey and his enduring legacy of Black pride, self-determination, unity, and social justice.* |
| *August 19th* | ***World Humanitarian Day*** | *Recognizes humanitarian workers and those who dedicate their lives to helping people affected by conflict, disaster, and crisis.* |
| *August 21st* | ***International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism*** | *Honor the victims and survivors of terrorism while promoting compassion, resilience, peace, and support for affected individuals and communities.* |

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|---|---|---|
| *August 21st* | ***National Senior Citizens Day*** | *Recognizes the contributions, achievements, and wisdom of older adults while promoting dignity, inclusion, and healthy aging.* |
| *August 23rd* | ***International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief*** | *Honors victims of religious violence while promoting religious freedom, inclusion, respect for diverse beliefs, and the protection of human rights.* |
| *August 23rd* | ***International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition*** | *Honors the victims of the transatlantic slave trade while promoting education, remembrance, and the fight against racism and injustice.* |
| *August 25-26th*<br>*(Beginning at Sunset)* | ***Mawlid al-Nabi*** | *Commemorates the birth of the Prophet Muhammad through prayer, reflection, charity, and community gatherings. Observance varies among Muslim communities.* |
| *August 26th* | ***Women's Equality Day*** | *Commemorates the certification of the 19th Amendment granting many women the right to vote in the United States and celebrates continued efforts toward gender equity.* |

| Date | Event / Observance | Focus / Why It Matters |
|---|---|---|
| *August 27-30th* | ***St. Anthony's Feast (Boston North End*** | *Celebrates Italian-American heritage through religious processions, cultural traditions, music, food, and community festivities.* |
| *August 28th* | ***Raksha Bandhan*** | *Primarily Hindu cultural celebration of the bond between siblings, honoring love, protection, and family relationships.* |
| *August 28th* | ***Anniversary of the March on Washington (1963)*** | *Honors the historic March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, recognizing its enduring impact on civil rights and social justice.* |
| *August 31st* | ***International Day for People of African Descent*** | *Celebrates the contributions, cultures, and achievements of people of African descent while promoting equality, inclusion, and the fight against racism worldwide.* |