Diversity Events Calendar
July 2026

July provides a new opportunity to celebrate the unique backgrounds, cultures, identities, perspectives, and experiences that enrich our communities and workplaces. It reminds us that diversity is one of our greatest strengths and that fostering inclusion, belonging, and mutual respect benefits everyone.

At CPCS, these observances are more than dates on a calendar; they are opportunities 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 July, we recognize a variety of cultural, historical, religious, and awareness observances. These observances highlight individuals, milestones, and movements that have advanced equity, justice, inclusion, and human dignity.

By recognizing these important moments, 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***
Disability Pride Month	*Celebrates the contributions and experiences of people with disabilities across our diversity, promoting inclusion, accessibility, and disability rights.*
National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month	*Raises awareness of mental health challenges in minority communities and promotes equitable access to care.*
French American Heritage Month	*Honors the history, culture, and contributions of French Americans.*
National Make a Difference to Children Month	*Encourages support for the well-being, education, and development of children and youth.*

Social Wellness Month	*Promotes healthy relationships, connection, and community well-being.*
UV Safety Awareness Month	*Raises awareness about sun safety and skin cancer prevention.*
Sarcoma Awareness Month	*Raises awareness of sarcoma and supports research and advocacy efforts.*

July Holidays and Anniversaries of Culturally Significant Events

Date	Event / Observance	Focus / Why It Matters
July 2nd	***Thurgood Marshall's Birthday***	*Honors Thurgood Marshall, the first African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice, and his legacy of advancing civil rights, equal justice, and racial equity.*
July 3rd	***Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle***	*Honors the Apostle Thomas, known for his journey from doubt to faith and his missionary work.*
July 4th	***Independence Day***	*Commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and offers an opportunity to reflect on freedom, democracy, and the nation's ongoing pursuit of equality and justice.*
July 5th	***Cape Verdean Independence Day***	*Celebrates Cape Verde's independence from Portugal in 1975 and recognizes the rich cultural heritage and contributions of Cape Verdean communities, particularly in Massachusetts.*

Date	Event / Observance	Focus / Why It Matters
July 11th	***World Population Day***	*Raises awareness about global population issues, including human rights, health, gender equality, and sustainable development.*
July 11th	***Feast of St. Benedict***	*Honors St. Benedict, founder of Western monasticism and a model of faith, leadership, and service.*
July 12th	***Malala Day***	*Recognizes the global advocacy of Malala Yousafzai for girls' education and equal opportunities worldwide.*
July 14th	***Bastille Day***	*Celebrates the French Revolution's ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity, values that continue to influence democratic societies.*
July 14th	***International Non-Binary People's Day***	*Raises awareness of non-binary identities and promotes visibility, understanding, and inclusion for people whose gender identity falls outside the traditional male-female binary.*
July 17th July	***World Day for International Justice***	*Promotes accountability for crimes against humanity and supports international efforts to uphold human rights and the rule of law.*
July 18th	***Nelson Mandela International Day***	*Honors Nelson Mandela and encourages individuals to dedicate time to community service, equality, and social justice.*
July 22nd	***Feast of St. Mary Magdalene***	*Honors one of Jesus Christ's most devoted followers and recognizes her role as an important witness in Christian tradition.*

Date	Event / Observance	Focus / Why It Matters
July 23rd - 24th	***Tisha B'Av***	*A solemn Jewish day of mourning commemorating the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem and other tragedies in Jewish history.*
July 25th	***Feast of St. James the Apostle***	*Honors one of Jesus' closest disciples and recognizes his role in the spread of Christianity.*
July 26th	***National Disability Independence Day***	*Commemorates the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and advances accessibility, inclusion, and equal rights for people with disabilities.*
July 26th	***Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne***	*Honors the parents of the Virgin Mary and celebrates the importance of family, caregiving, and faith traditions.*
July 28th	***World Hepatitis Day***	*Raise awareness about viral hepatitis, prevention, testing, treatment, and global public health efforts.*
July 29th	***Guru Purnima***	*Celebrates spiritual and academic teachers across Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain traditions, emphasizing gratitude, learning, wisdom, and mentorship.*
July 29-30th	***Asalha Puja***	*Commemorates the Buddha's first sermon and the founding of the Buddhist monastic community.*
July 31st	***Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola***	*Honors the founder of the Jesuit order and his legacy of education, service, and social justice.*

Massachusetts ADA & Disability Pride Events July 2026

July is Disability Pride Month and marks the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), signed into law on July 26, 1990. Throughout Massachusetts, organizations celebrate disability rights, accessibility, inclusion, and the contributions of people with disabilities. The theme for Disability Pride Month 2026 is: The World Works Better With Us!

There are likely additional events that will be scheduled during July that have not yet been posted, so please check your local area city and events listings during July for additional events.

AMHERST

July 16 & 20th 2026	***Disability Pride Programs Scheduled for July 16 and July 20 to Feature Adaptive Sports***

BOSTON

July 15th 2026 | 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	***ADA Day 2026***
July 11th 2026 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	***American Sign Language (ASL) at the Library: Signing Rocks!***
July 21st 2026 | 6:00 pm – 7:30 PM	***Intro to Disability History [Online Program]***

BARNSTABLE

July 29th 2026 | 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM	***Cape Cod ADA Anniversary Celebration***

CHELSEA

July 11th 2026 | 11:00 AM	***United In Ability - Disability Pride Month Celebration!***

FAIRHAVEN

July 19th 2026 | 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM	***Disability Pride Celebration***

GARDNER

July 31st 2026 | 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM	***ADA Day Celebration***

METHUEN

July 25th 2026 | 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM	***Disability Pride Fair***

SALEM

July 9th 2026 | 4:00 PM	***First Annual Disability Pride Flag Raising Ceremony***

WORCESTER

July 15th 2026 | 11:00 AM	***Out To Lunch Festival & Farmers' Market*** ***Featuring disability advocacy organizations and community accessibility resources.***