

Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine EDI Brief - July 2023

Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month celebrates the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act in July 1990, which codified protections for people with disabilities. Throughout COVID-19 and the resulting lockdowns, people with disabilities faced severe disruptions to services and employment at higher rates than people without disabilities. An analysis of *Household Pulse Survey* data from 52,890 adults (18+) with disabilities and 391,532 nondisabled adults showed that 52% of people with disabilities had difficulty paying household expenses and were 2.78 times more likely to experience financial hardship during the pandemic.

Our reading recommendations this month reflect intersectional identities of people with disabilities, their joy, and continued work, both nationwide and in our own backyard, to create a world that allows people with disabilities thrive.

A statement on recent Supreme Court decisions

Over the last few years, our department and community have watched the US Supreme Court make decisions that negatively affect women, people of color, and the LGBTQ+ community. These decisions have allowed states to restrict access to abortion care, criminalize gender-affirming care for transgender children, and end affirmative action policies that increased diversity in universities.

Washington State has responded by becoming a sanctuary state for abortion access and members of the LGBTQ+ community fleeing dangerous states. The Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine EDI Council is committed to providing safe, effective care in an affirming environment for all patients, trainees, staff and providers, and we will continue to lead efforts in the hospitals and School of Medicine to build an environment rooted in health justice.

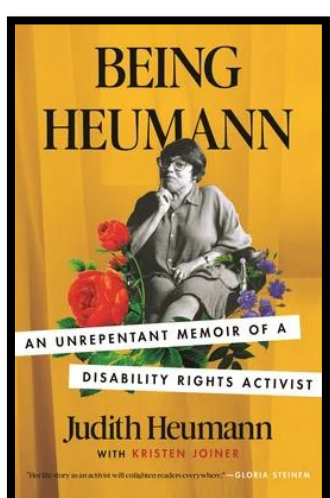
If you would like to be involved in these efforts, please contact [Nathalia Jimenez](#) and [Jaelen Barnett](#).

Resources

Upcoming holidays in our community

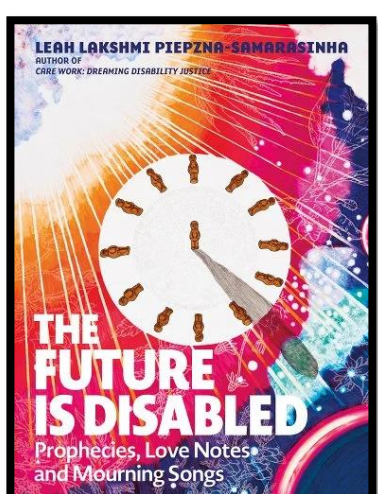
The EDI Council celebrates the diverse range of cultural, religious, and community celebrations in our department. Visit the [NIH Diversity Calendar](#) for a list of holidays in **August**.

Recommended Reading:



[Being Heumann](#), Judith Heumann

One of the most prolific disability rights activists in the US, Heumann recounts her story of her fight to receive an education, have a job, and be allowed to exist.



[The Future Is Disabled: Prophecies, Love Notes and Mourning Songs](#), Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

Piepzna-Samarasinha envisions an inclusive future for people with disabilities based on their own community-centered work in Seattle.