



RH EDI Corner

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Dear colleagues,

December is a month of transition from darkness to sunlight as we pass the winter solstice on December 21, 2023. It also is a month that offers numerous opportunities to celebrate the diversity around us. Here are some of them:

- In the Christian faith, **Christmas** is a historical celebration that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ.
- **Hanukkah**, also known as Chanukah, is an eight-day Jewish celebration that commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem after the Maccabean Revolt. It is also known as the Festival of Lights.
- **Kwanzaa** is a holiday that celebrates the first fruits of the harvest season. The name comes from Swahili language and is often marked with songs and dances.
- During the Middle Ages in the UK, **Boxing Day** originated as a day to open alms boxes, which were collection boxes kept in churches for the poor, and distribute their contents.
- **Omisoka**, which is the Japanese word for New Year's Eve, is considered the second most important day in Japanese tradition.

This year, we will be holding a holiday singing session on December 19th (Tuesday) from 2:30–3:30pm at the hospital atrium (next to Starbucks) to spread some joy at the hospital. Please come and join us!

Warm regards,
Eliza

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