

March 2022

## Hello friends and colleagues:

Join us in celebrating Women's History Month. What began as Women's History Day morphed into National Women's History Week by former President Jimmy Carter in 1980. In 1987, Congress passed a law designating March as <a href="Women's History Month">Women's History Month</a> to recognize the resilience and contributions of women throughout time and today. Marking this month reminds us of the accomplishments of women in science and art, in education and politics, in healthcare and community building and every other sector of our society. Highlighting women's contributions inspires others, especially young people, to identify role models and to dream big.

The <u>National Women's History Alliance</u> designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. The 2022 theme is Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope. This theme is "both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history."

As we celebrate, it is also important to acknowledge that some women have been conspicuously excluded from narratives about history and culture, namely women of color, transwomen, and gender non-conforming women. Let us challenge each other to rethink narratives about narrow definitions and roles of women over time and now. Let us instead act on the words of <u>Audre Lorde</u>: "The future of our earth may depend upon the ability of all women to identify and develop new definitions of power and new patterns of relating across difference."

## Resources:

- Women's History Month Toolkit (NWHM, 2021)
- Celebrating Women and Nonbinary Persons (readings, podcasts, events)
- 5 Things to Know to Make Your Feminism Trans-Inclusive
- 8 Women of Color on Women's History Month
- Remember the Ladies TedTalk [6:24]
- The Evolution of Feminism

## Collective action:

- Support the He for She Campaign
- Visit other Feminist Organizations
- Washington Women's Foundation

In solidarity, Ha, Melissa, Christina