During Black History Month this year, CTI will be publishing profile features of local Black leaders to celebrate #LowellBlackExcellence. Check back regularly throughout the month as we hear from our leaders in their own words about their experiences, perspectives and wisdom as Black leaders in our local communities.

Francine Costin, PhD, 2020

Associate Director, Early College Initiatives Enrollment Management University Crossing, Suite 420 220 Pawtucket Street, Lowell, MA 01854

By Diana Santana, Lead Case Manager, Milly's Shelter – Housing and Homeless Services at Community Teamwork

What does Black History month mean to you, and what can the community do more of to recognize Black History during this month and during every month of the year?

The first thing the community should do is to NOT just recognize it during this month. Black History is History! Period! It is U.S. History, it's African History, it's Caribbean History! And while much of the history is ugly, disturbing and painful, there are many amazing and notable parts that should be highlighted and celebrated.

Black History IS History.

#CommunityLeader #Leadership #Appreciation #BlackHistoryMonth #BlackLivesMatter #DEIatCTI