



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH, OCTOBER 2024



People will always celebrate milestones and significant events in the black community, including Black History Month. To some, it may not be necessary to celebrate, to others, it helps to reengage, revitalise, and refocus on issues that directly and perhaps indirectly affect black people, not just in the United Kingdom but globally as well. To commemorate black history, DECEW usually holds workshops throughout Black History Month, making use of the opportunity not only to reflect and appreciate the achievements of black people but also to raise awareness of dementia and other health needs.

The origins of Black History Month may be traced back to the 1920s in the United States of America, but the first Black History Month took place in the United Kingdom in 1987 which coincided with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Caribbean emancipation from slavery and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity. Since then, it has formed part of the black community's October reflective month, each year.

We commemorate Black History Month for a variety of reasons, the most significant of which is that there is still much to learn about black history. Black history brings the black community together with the wider public, and recognising our uniqueness has various advantages, including boosting awareness of the importance of our own experiences. Black History Month encourages us to go deeper and broaden our perspectives to make our country a better place for all. To conclude 2024 Black History Month, DECEW will host an online workshop from Europe on October 31st at 7 p.m. (SET). This will take place in either Spain, Portugal, Belgium, France or the Netherlands. Once a location is established, DECEW will post the information on [www.decew.co.uk](http://www.decew.co.uk). For additional information, visit the Services page and click on Events/Activities

This year's program focuses on "Dementia and the Family," helping families comprehend the effects of a dementia diagnosis. Raising awareness of dementia's impact on black

communities is vital, which is why DECEW and many other dementia organisations work relentlessly to promote and develop dementia awareness. We acknowledge that more must be done and sustained in the future if we are to break down the barriers that commonly inhibit social cohesion, diversity, inclusion, and equality, notably in social and healthcare.

If you would like to present a case study or discuss your dementia experience, please contact us at, [events@decew.co.uk](mailto:events@decew.co.uk), [info@decew.co.uk](mailto:info@decew.co.uk), or [chinno@decew.co.uk](mailto:chinno@decew.co.uk)

DECEW would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who continues to support our work. We believe that Black History Month provides us with an opportunity to reflect on ourselves and our communities, as well as how we can create a better society for all people, regardless of colour, sex, or ethnicity.

Please visit our donations page if you want to assist the organisation flourish. Your support allows us to continue our efforts to raise dementia awareness and understanding. We can make a difference when we work together.

Finally, thank you, and we hope to see you at the next workshop on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2024.



*Chinno Wills-Cole (MSc, Dem Care)*  
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[www.decew.co.uk](http://www.decew.co.uk)