



Memorandum

To: All DCF Staff

From: Commissioner Vanessa Dorantes

Date: 2/14/2021

Happy Valentine's Day! My favorite holiday!!!!



February is designated as **Black History Month**. February 12<sup>th</sup> signifies the beginning of the lunar as well as the **Chinese New Year**. As we strive to understand, we must commit to always listening & learning more about ourselves as well as others. What is the distinction between our Diversity Action Team, Racial Justice efforts and our Immigration work? Listen and learn in **this week's video** → **Commissioner's Bi-Weekly Video 2-14-21**

Other topics in this week's video:

- The 2021 **Legislative session** is in full effect. I have begun offering testimony on several bills. One important piece of legislation is the CROWN Act. Read here for more information: **An Act Creating A Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair** To read a copy of my testimony — click here → [LAB 02.09.2021 CROWN Act Bill HB 6376.pdf](#)

Follow the session's public hearings on <https://ct-n.com/>.

- This past week Gov Ned Lamont presented his 2022-2023 **Biennial budget** as "a reflection of our shared values." Listen here for what he had to say → <https://youtu.be/tUWlcWt96oc>

-  The first CTDCF **Leadership Summit** of 2021 is this Wednesday. You have a homework assignment to ask your local leader about the event and our collective vision for this year & beyond.
- Lastly, this week's video will further discuss **vaccine prioritization** and the Dept's positivity trend stats.



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*"I do my best because I'm counting on YOU counting on me..."  
-M. Angelou*

