Introducing the Monthly Health Observances Collection

by Rebecca Raszewski

The Monthly Health Observances project made its debut in January 2010. This project highlights Library of the Health Sciences (LHS) books, both in print and online, based on Monthly Health Observances’ topics. Examples of topics include Autism Awareness, Brain Injury Awareness, Minority Health & Health Disparities, National Birth Defects Awareness Month, and National Nutrition Month. In addition to health observances, other observances such as Black History Month and Women’s History Month will be featured. The librarians working on this project are LHS Chicago (LHS-C) librarians, Rebecca Raszewski and Irene Williams.

These books are geared towards consumers, health care professionals, students, and staff. LHS-C has a display of its collection on the first floor near the circulation desk. All books from the LHS site libraries (Chicago, Peoria, Rockford, Urbana), including e-books, are highlighted on LibraryThing, a website that allows people to display their collections online. Users can view other LibraryThing members’ collections who own the same or similar books, and read their reviews. UIC patrons can browse through the collection by title, author, or by tags that indicate location, online availability or observance topic. A Monthly Health Observances Guide has been created which displays websites that apply to each observance and a link to the LibraryThing collection. All of the books displayed at LHS-C or on LibraryThing can be checked out from at least one of the LHS site libraries.

See a book you like? Request it by going through your library account. Books from the LHS sites can be sent to each location. You will be notified when the book is available to be checked out.

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