Hispanic Americans

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week. The observance was expanded in 1988 to a month long celebration (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15).

Hispanic Americans are Americans of European, African, American Indian, Asian, and mixed ancestries who share certain historical background and cultural traditions - in particular, the Spanish language.

Hispanic Americans have diverse roots. Many came to the U.S. from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Spain, the Dominican Republic, or Spanish-speaking countries of Central and South America

Hispanic Americans represent almost 13.5% of the U.S. population or over 38.8 million people, and as the world's fifth largest Spanish-speaking nation, rank as the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population.

As NMFS celebrates our Hispanic community, we do so with the following goals:

- Address the underrepresentation and underutilization of Hispanics at all levels of NMFS.
- Create a workplace environment where Hispanic employees are valued.
- Increase the number of Hispanics at all levels of the NMFS workforce.
- Ensure that prospective Hispanic applicants are aware of NMFS as an employer of choice and of the opportunities for Hispanics at NMFS.
- Ensure that Hispanic employees are fully developed and prepared to assume positions of greater responsibility.
- Ensure that the NMFS is aware of the culture, concerns, and issues of its Hispanic employees and the Hispanic community it serves.

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