

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

RNDC proudly celebrates Black History Month, a time to acknowledge the rich culture and achievements of Blacks/African Americans. We have an ongoing commitment to a culture of inclusion, where diversity is celebrated and where every person can be her or his authentic self. RNDC truly values the unique perspectives, experiences, and contributions of our diverse associates, communities, and business partners.

Name: Yolanda Dixon

Job Role: MDM Manager

Work Location: Grand Prairie, Texas



Why is Black History Month important to you?

Black History Month is important to me because we celebrate the contributions that African Americans have made to American history. Black History Month highlights the past successes of African Americans who made a way, even when their circumstances seemed impossible. Observing Black History Month also gives people of all races the opportunity to learn more about our journey. For me, Black History Month is a celebration of overcoming and rising to greatness.

What would you like our RNDC/YMCO family to know about you? Briefly, tell us your story – personal and/or professional. What makes you uniquely you?

I started my career with RNDC in July of 1998 in Longview, Texas. I was in Longview for two years before coming home to Dallas and transferring to the Grand Prairie office as a floater. I have held several positions within RNDC; Accounts Receivable Clerk, Customer Service Manager, Data Quality Technician, Data Quality Supervisor, and my current role as MDM Manager.

I am the mother of two adult children and enjoy spending time with my family. My hobbies include arcade games, roller skating, and watching sports.

To tie in with our 2020 Black History Month theme, tell us about any family traditions or fond memories that involve music. Why is music important to the Black Experience?

Music is an ESSENTIAL part of Black culture. Music was a way for slaves to express their feelings whether it was happy, sad, inspiration or hope. Growing up, music is our first introduction to ART. I remember as a kid, my mother and father always playing rhythm and blues. Artists like Bobby Bland, BB King, and Johnny Taylor blared throughout the house at all family gatherings. During our family reunions one event we all looked forward to be the talent show. This gave us an opportunity to display our talents, whether you were singing or dancing. Music still and will ALWAYS be important to Black culture.



**Tell us about your taste in music.
What is your favorite music genre?
Who are your favorite music artists,
past or present? Why?**

I enjoy different genres of music; however, my favorites are R&B and Hip Hop. I grew up listening to Michael Jackson (my very first concert), Prince, Whitney Houston, Salt N Peppa, Run DMC, LL Cool J, NWA, and Tupac. When my children were growing up, I found myself listening to a lot of what they listened to. I don't have a favorite artist, but I am a fan of Erykah Badu, Mary J. Blige, Beyoncé, CARDI B, Kendrick Lamar, and TI.

What is your favorite adult beverage?

Deep Eddy Lemon Vodka with a splash of water.