



## Statement Against Racism

During these times of heightened awareness of systemic racism and cruel injustices inflicted upon Black Americans, The Glenside Public Library District joins the American Library Association and the Illinois Library Association by declaring a stand against racism and systemic injustice.

*"Wherever it resides, racism leads to degradation. It weakens our institutions and destroys our communities and is one of the greatest obstacles to the American Library Association's mission 'to enhance learning and ensure access to information to all.'"*  
-American Library Association, June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

As a public library we stand for equity, inclusion, social responsibility, and lifelong learning. To further these values the we commit to the following:

- Identify and eliminate racial and social equity barriers in library programs, services, policies and practices.
- Provide educational opportunities to Library Staff and Board to increase awareness of and understanding of racism and systemic injustice.
- Assure that collections are developed to accurately represent the diversity of the world.
- Serve as a facilitator that allows the community to come together to discuss challenging issues and differing points of view.
- Create and maintain an environment of respect and inclusion in the library and all outreach services.

Tom Bartenfelder, Library Director and the Glenside Library District Board of Trustees