

Statement of Organizational Values on Racism

Libraries are committed to following the values of our profession as set forth by American Library Association (ALA). These values include equity, equality, diversity and inclusion, social responsibility, and lifelong learning. At this moment in history, The Sugar Grove Public Library follows the example of the ALA and the Illinois Library Association in declaring that we stand against injustice in all forms.

The Sugar Grove Public Library is committed to creating a library environment where all are welcome and treated with dignity and respect. We endeavor to provide educational resources to assist members of our community of all ages, background and ethnicities to learn about the realities of racism and injustice and to build a library collection that reflects the diversity of human experience.

We pledge to engage in ongoing self-examination to ensure that bias and discrimination have no place in the practices, policies or procedures of this institution. In doing so, we aspire to do our part to eradicate racism from society and create a more just world, including the following:

- Supporting and listening to members of our community
- Fostering dialogue and civic engagement
- Recommending materials to help patrons learn about systemic racism and oppression
- Provide access to a broad collection that represents the diversity of our community

At the core of our Library's organizational values is compassion, education and empathy. We seek to work with others to build a resilient community that expresses a deep concern for the well-being of every person.

Shannon Halikias, Library Director and the Sugar Grove Public Library Board of Trustees

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