

## **Black Lives Matter**

*A statement from Flint Public Library's Board, Staff and Management*

We stand with our black community and with everyone who condemns racism.

Flint Public Library acknowledges that racism is embedded in our nation, state and communities. The Library has for many years been known as a safe space for the Flint community to have tough conversations on how racism happens, why it happens and how to activate change.

From our Race and Racism Speaker Series in the 90s to the Tendaji Talks and Community Read of today, we continue to provide relevant resources and a place where people can talk, learn, discuss, see, hear and listen to each other.

Our collection bears witness to the importance of Black lives. In the early 90s we established our Black Life Collection. It includes hundreds of books and other materials by African American authors and about African American life, history and culture.

We know change does not happen overnight. As we join with the nation to mourn the race-based murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Eric Garner and so many other victims, Flint Public Library commits to be a force for change.

We will:

Provide a place for learning and sharing ideas about racial equity, justice and inclusion.

Maintain a collection of materials that reflects the diversity of our community.

Deliver library service that welcomes everyone and respects the human dignity of all.

To the Black Community: We see you. We hear you. We stand with you. Your Lives Matter.

June 5, 2020