Whereas the library community and Charleston, South Carolina lost a true leader, caring colleague and advocate for libraries on Wednesday June 17, 2015, with the death of Cynthia Graham Hurd;

Whereas Cynthia Hurd was one victim of a senseless, racially-motivated hate crime at the Emanuel A.M.E. Church, which ultimately took the lives of the following nine members of the Charleston, South Carolina community:

Susie Jackson  
Ethel Lance  
Rev. Depayne Middleton-Doctor  
Hon. Rev. Clementa Pinckney  
Tywanza Sanders  
Rev. Daniel Simmons, Jr.  
Rev. Sharonda Coleman-Singleton  
Myra Thompson

Whereas Mrs. Hurd was a tireless proponent of access to library services, and improving the lives of those in her community, by working to ensure that all Charleston residents have the opportunity to access lifelong education and personal growth;

Whereas Mrs. Hurd worked with Charleston County Public Library 31 years, serving as branch manager of the John L. Dart Branch from 1990-2011 before becoming manager of the St. Andrews Regional Library;

Whereas Mrs. Hurd served the College of Charleston since the mid-1990s as a part-time librarian at the Robert Scott Small Library and Addlestone Library;

Whereas Mrs. Hurd was an esteemed graduate of Clark Atlanta University and a 1989 graduate of the Master of Library and Information Science program at the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science.
A Resolution Honoring Cynthia G. Hurd

Whereas Cynthia Graham Hurd’s smile, laughter, and service positively touched the lives of all of her family, friends and colleagues;

Whereas Cynthia Graham Hurd’s sense of humor and love of people enriched the lives of all in the Charleston, South Carolina community;

Resolved, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. celebrates the life and work of Cynthia Graham Hurd as a librarian, community servant, friend and colleague;

2. expresses its condolences to Cynthia Graham Hurd’s family, friends, and colleagues at the Charleston County Public Library and the College of Charleston; and

expresses its sincerest sympathy to the communities of Emanuel A.M.E. Church and Charleston, South Carolina for their loss of nine vibrant lives that were taken from them far too soon.

Adopted by the Council of the American Library Association
Tuesday, June 30, 2015, in San Francisco, California

Keith Michael Fiels, Executive Director
and Secretary of the ALA Council