



**DRAFT**

## Flint ReCAST Community Advisory Board

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84267455910>

Meeting ID: 842 6745 5910

Password: 218649

**Lottie Ferguson**  
Chief Resilience Officer  
City Of Flint

**AftonShavers**  
Project Manager  
Greater Flint Health Coalition

### Board Members

**James Avery**  
Flint and Genesee Chamber of  
Commerce

**Shardae Davis**  
Genesee County Community  
Action Resource Department

**Kenyetta Dotson**  
Michigan State University

**Debra Furr-Holden**  
Healthy Flint Research  
Coordinating Center

**Lauren Holaly-Zembo**  
Crim Fitness Foundation

**Sandra Johnson**  
Hamilton Community Health  
Network

**Sandra Jones**  
Greater Holy Temple

**Steven Kramer**  
Michigan State Police

**Promice Mosley**  
Neighborhood Engagement Hub

**Keiona Murphy**  
Flint Community Schools

**Jalen Nunn**  
YMCA of Greater Flint

**Tauzarri Robinson**  
Boys and Girls Club of Flint

**Danis Russell**  
Genesee Health System

**Kirk Smith**  
Greater Flint Health Coalition

**Verona Terry**  
Flint and Genesee Job Corps  
Center

**Rafael Turner**  
Ruth Mott Foundation

**Jamie-Lee Venable**  
United Way of Genesee County

**Asa Zuccaro**  
Latinx Technology & Community  
Center

## MINUTES

### Community Advisory Board

Members Attending: 17/19 (89%)

**James Avery**  
Flint and Genesee Chamber of Commerce

**Shardae Davis**  
Genesee County Community Action  
Resource Department

**Kenyetta Dotson**  
Michigan State University

**Debra Furr-Holden**  
Healthy Flint Research  
Coordinating Center

**Lottie Ferguson**  
City of Flint

**Lauren Holaly-Zembo**  
CRIM Fitness Foundation

**Sandra Johnson**  
Hamilton Community Health Network

**Sandra Jones**  
Greater Holy Temple

**Promice Mosley**  
Neighborhood Engagement Hub

**Keiona Murphy**  
Flint Community Schools

**Jalen Nunn**  
YMCA of Greater Flint

**Tauzarri Robinson**  
Boys and Girls Club of Flint

**Dan Russell**  
Genesee Health System

**Kirk Smith**  
Greater Flint Health Coalition

**Verona Terry**  
Flint and Genesee Job Corps Center

**Rafael Turner**  
Ruth Mott Foundation

**Jamie-Lee Venable**  
United Way of Genesee County

Community Advisory Board  
Members Not Attending: 2/19 (11%)

**Steven Kramer**  
Michigan State Police

**Asa Zuccaro**  
Latinx Technology and Community Center

Guest: (1)

**Sheldon Neeley**  
Mayor, City of Flint

Staff: (2)

**Afton Shavers**  
Greater Flint Health Coalition

**Nichole Smith-Anderson**  
Greater Flint Health Coalition

## **WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER**

Lottie Ferguson, City of Flint, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Roundtable introductions were made.

## **A New Beginning: Introduction of Flint ReCAST**

Mayor Sheldon Neeley shared a welcome greeting with Board Members, thanking them for their service to the project and continued dedication to improving the City of Flint.

Ms. Ferguson provided a brief introduction to the relaunch of the Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma (ReCAST) project, noting that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a 5 year grant.

## **Flint ReCAST Orientation**

Afton Shavers, Greater Flint Health Coalition (GFHC), gave a presentation on the scope, and objectives of the Flint ReCAST project. She shared that the purpose of this project is to assist high-risk youth and families and promote resilience and equity in communities that have recently faced civil unrest through implementation of evidence-based, violence prevention, and community youth engagement programs, as well as linkages to trauma-informed behavioral health services. Ms. Shavers shared that ReCAST is a vessel for community healing and strengthening the relationship between the City and its residents. She shared that the Greater Flint Health Coalition has signed on to the project as the new facilitation partner and is looking to move the project forward with a realignment to the original goals and objectives of Flint ReCAST.

Ms. Shavers discussed with the board each of the five identified objectives of Flint ReCAST:

- Build on strong local programs and partnerships to support at-risk youth and families in developing resilience, reducing violence, and developing a vibrant community
- Use trauma-informed evidence-based programming to mitigate potential behavioral health impacts of the Flint Water Emergency on Flint youth and families
- Integrate evidence-based violence prevention programming to enhance ongoing community organization led activities to encourage youth at high risk for developing traumatic stress symptomatology toward empowerment and achievement pipelines rather than the school to prison pipelines
- Create a trauma-informed first responder community by providing trauma training to local police, first responders and correction officers
- Increase capacity for youth and families in the Flint community to support skill building and career opportunities to implement evidenced based programs

Ms. Shavers stated that the goal of the ReCAST program is for local community entities to work together in ways that lead to improved behavioral health, empowered community residents, and reductions in trauma and sustained community change. Ms. Shavers

shared that at this time in our country and community we are battling several factors that increase trauma for Flint kids and any relevant discussion must also acknowledge the Flint water Crisis, COVID-19, civil unrest, and the fact that racism is systematic, institutional, and a clear and present danger to the Black community.

She shared that Flint ReCAST intends to support family strengthening, youth engagement, and resilience based on recommendations of the ReCAST Community Advisory Board, which will identify new and existing programs that are a good fit for Flint, and are evidence supported. Ms. Shavers asked Board Members to undertake the opportunity Flint ReCAST offers the community by being invested to create and support sustained community change.

### **Your Role in Flint ReCAST**

Ms. Ferguson led a discussion with members about their role in Flint ReCAST. Members discussed their perspectives on identifying elements of trauma impacting Flint youth sharing that housing, food insecurity, lack of technology, concerns over violence, and police brutality are key elements. Additionally, members shared that there is still a significant lack of trust in the community in regards to public safety. Members shared that trauma due to sexual abuse is on the rise but not on the radar. Also, members shared that poverty and the normalization of gun violence makes it difficult for Flint kids to visualize the same opportunities for themselves as kids growing up in the county. Members shared concerns about the added trauma of COVID-19 reducing the support systems for Flint kids such as after school programs and recreational activities that provide a nurturing and safe space to kids who may be experience high exposure to trauma, violence, and food insecurity.

Additional discussion ensued about how members feel they might be able to reduce the levels of trauma Flint kid's experience. Members suggested that prioritizing the efforts to combat economic depression by supplying basic needs has to be a critical component of any strategy. Members shared that generational poverty is crippling Flint families and Flint kid's ability to see opportunity. Sandra Jones, Greater Holy Temple, shared concern over the lack of funding for basic needs. She stated that kids can't take advantage of programming and activities built to support them if they are hungry, hurt or ill.

Ms. Ferguson asked members to share how they feel the ReCAST project can make a difference. Discussion ensued with members sharing that there is a growth opportunity with Flint ReCAST to create a shared framework in how we handle trauma from a community perspective. Members suggested that Flint ReCAST can be an opportunity for Flint to shape our own narrative, empowering the voice and resilience of the residents by sharing what we are doing well. Promice Mosley, Neighborhood Engagement Hub (NEH), shared that there is a need to uplift and empower the youth voice that is currently lacking in conversations taking place about addressing the needs of youth. Additionally, members shared that engagement of the whole family can in many ways best support the child and the community. Members noted that there are lots of grandparents, aunts, and uncles

raising kids due to incarceration and other factors that not only traumatize the child but place them at higher risk for the school to prison pipeline. Debra Furr-Holden, Ph.D., Healthy Flint Research Coordinating Center (HFRCC), also suggested Flint ReCAST can support itself and sustainability by connecting with other ReCAST projects especially Baltimore and Chicago. She said working in conjunction with the other projects gives Flint ReCAST the ability to form a coalition with the hope of creating collective success and group sustainability across the projects.

### **The Resiliency Model**

This agenda item was tabled for the next meeting.

### **Review and Approval: 2020 Meeting Schedule**

Ms. Ferguson requested a motion approving the 2020 Flint ReCAST Community Advisory Board meeting schedule as distributed.

### **On a motion duly made and seconded, it was**

**VOTED** to approve the 2020 Flint ReCAST Community Advisory Board meeting schedule as distributed.

### **Year 4 Mini Grants**

Ms. Shavers gave an overview of a document detailing the year 4 mini grant process including a brief summary of the eleven projects that were awarded funding.

Ms. Ferguson shared that additional work being completed by the mini grant recipients, includes Genesee Health System that will be working on incorporating trauma informed training for first responders.

Lauren Holaly-Zembo, Crim Fitness Foundation, shared their organization will be doing some additional work with to expand the city wide sports programs. She shared that more details will be made available as planning concludes.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, July 15, 2020  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Commerce Center  
Third Floor Boardroom  
519 South Saginaw Street  
Flint, Michigan 48502

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.