

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



AN INTERVIEW WITH **CARMA LEWIS**

President of
FLINT NEIGHBORHOODS UNITED

WHAT YEAR DID YOU BEGIN WORKING WITH FLINT NEIGHBORHOODS UNITED?

2010. I became president of the organization in 2015.

WHAT IS THE MISSION OR PURPOSE OF FLINT NEIGHBORHOODS UNITED?

We share information throughout the city through neighborhood groups to improve the quality of life within our neighborhoods. If a neighborhood has an issue and resolves it, they can give advice to another neighborhood to try to make it easier for others. We have other organizations that join our meetings (not-for-profits) and organizations that can help supply items in need, as well as volunteer. We also work with local schools, such as Powers and Southwestern. The city does not belong to the people at city hall, it belongs to us – we have been empowered to take care of it.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE IN THE HEALTH PROMOTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (HPTED) PROJECT AT THE PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER OF MICHIGAN?

My role is to make the connections. People tend to get the runaround now when they call organizations for resource information. I meet organizations in person with a smile on my face to try and figure out what resources the organization offers. When people need some type of resource, I connect them with the organization that has it.

I started out as a volunteer, but from the connections I've made, I have been able to find employment.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND FLINT NEIGHBORHOODS UNITED ONLINE?

[Facebook.com/FlintNeighborhoodsUnited](https://www.facebook.com/FlintNeighborhoodsUnited) and FlintNeighborhoodsUnited.org

DO YOU HAVE ANY LINKS TO RESOURCES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE RELATED TO COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION?

flintneighborhoodsunited.org/documents/ (Flint Neighborhoods United online newspaper)