

PASSION

& Purpose



Truth,
Racial Healing
& Transformation

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome to our first issue of *Passion & Purpose*, a publication designed to share stories about our donors, grantees and nonprofit organizations committed to making a difference in Flint and Genesee County. In this inaugural issue, we focus on Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT). This community leadership initiative is made possible through an \$825,000, multi-year grant received from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Flint is one of 14 communities nationwide using the TRHT framework.

In my podcast with Dr. Gail Christopher, architect of the TRHT framework, you'll learn how the TRHT initiative came about — in one of her dreams. She defines equity for us: "Equity means promoting just and fair inclusion throughout society and creating the conditions in which everyone can participate, prosper and reach his or her full potential."

To date we have convened a Design Team of local leaders to lead the work; trained local healing practitioners and sponsored a Day of Racial Healing; and funded The Race Exhibit

at the Sloan Museum. Together with local nonprofit partners, we recruited 24 Vision Session co-hosts who conducted 12 visioning sessions across the city, bringing together over 400 participants.

We are grateful to donors who have supported the work to date: Gary and Carol Hurand, Bill Piper and United Way of Genesee County. We have established an endowed fund, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation is matching gifts 1:1, up to \$300,000. This endowment will fund the work of local nonprofits in the future.

Flint is one of the country's most segregated cities. We must heal so we can grow. Through TRHT, we will build sustainable progress neighbor by neighbor, to transform Flint so we all have a brighter future.

Isaiah M. Oliver
President and CEO

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VISIT US IN DOWNTOWN FLINT



AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. GAIL CHRISTOPHER

Philanthropy Speaks is a podcast hosted by president and CEO Isaiah M. Oliver. Below are excerpts from an interview conducted in March. Listen to the 30-minute conversation on Spotify, Stitcher, Android or Apple podcast apps.

ISAIAH OLIVER: If we can just take a moment here to take the deep dive and dissect Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation itself and then the framework.

DR. GAIL CHRISTOPHER: Racial healing is this notion that this belief in a hierarchy of human value is racism. You know, it's grounded in an archaic, antiquated concept, but botanical and biological concept of a taxonomy of the human family.

So when we say racial healing, we mean getting rid of that idea. The transformation has to do with creating a new way forward, creating policies and practices and institutions that honor our collective humanity in an equal way. And so that's what we mean by truth, racial healing and transformation.

ISAIAH OLIVER: You've committed your current time, talent and treasure to taking this work very deep.

Dr. Gail Christopher: So I have my whole life, my whole career looked at how do we mitigate the stress that we as people of color have a disproportionate burden of experiencing. But it was always about how can I make life better for the people that I feel the most direct connection to – people of color. But it evolved to understanding that we have to make life better for our whole country in order for that to be real.

ISAIAH OLIVER: I've learned that you are a Trekkie. And there is a word that you've used over and over again.

DR. GAIL CHRISTOPHER: I am a Trekkie. My kids, that was our one ritual, you know, was to watch that show together growing up. But jettison, that's one of the words from Star Trek ... you know, putting it out into space and it would be gone. Let's jettison this idea. And I think that's what we have to do with this false taxonomy notion. We have to just say it has no place in our universe or in the galaxy.

So if there is no hierarchy of human value, well how do we relate as human beings, we relate as equal. We relate as equal reflections of the beauty and I call it the majesty and the awe of



this design. That we are a reflection of that which is perfect, all of us and that we are equal in our value and our worth.

ISAIAH OLIVER: So you know Flint was selected alongside 13 other communities from across this country to pilot this Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation work. What would you share with this audience to not only activate their individual, but also to activate their collective efforts toward a commitment to jettisoning this belief?

DR. GAIL CHRISTOPHER: Appreciation and affirmation ... and belonging. We must connect with other people. We must feel a sense of belonging. And consciousness change. The work is designed to change our consciousness about our relationship as a human family and to emphasize that we are a sacred, inner-connected human family and that we depend on one another.



Scan this QR code to listen to the full podcast on Spotify.

GRANTMAKING FOR IMPACT

Community Foundation of Greater Flint (CFGF) awarded \$2,252,585 million in grants to 59 nonprofit programs in the first quarter 2019. Grants were made to nonprofit organizations serving Genesee County in a variety of sectors including health, education, human services, arts and culture, and youth development. Local nonprofits also received grants and distributions from advised and designated funds held at CFGF. Learn more at www.cfgf.org.

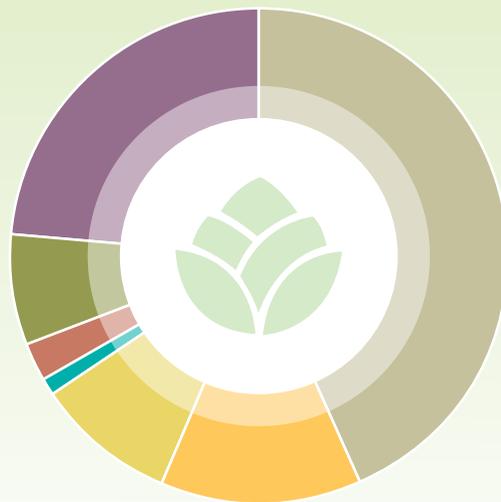
American Diabetes Association
 Ascension Genesys Foundation
 Bethel United Methodist Church
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Flint and Genesee County
 Carolyn Mawby Chorale
 Child Connect for Family Success
 City of Flint
 Clingman Foundation
 Court Street Village Non-Profit Housing Corporation
 Crim Fitness Foundation, Inc.
 Crossover Downtown Outreach Ministry
 DreamChasers, Inc.
 El Ballet Folklorico Estudiantil
 Ennis Center for Children, Inc.

Eye of Soul
 Fenton Area Public Schools
 First Church of Christ Congregation
 First Presbyterian Church
 Flint Branch of the NAACP
 Flint Cultural Center Corporation
 Flint Fresh
 Flint Institute of Arts
 Flint Institute of Music
 Flint Monarch II
 Flint River Watershed Coalition
 Food Bank of Eastern Michigan
 GearUp2Lead
 Genesee County Free Medical Clinic
 Genesee County Parks & Recreation Commission

Genesee Intermediate School District
 Girls on the Run Mid Michigan, Inc.
 Grand Blanc Parks & Recreation Commission
 Humane Society of Genesee County
 Hurley Foundation
 International Center of Greater Flint
 Kentakee Athletic & Social Clubs
 Lake Fenton Community Schools
 Leader Dogs for the Blind
 MADE Institute
 McFarlan Charitable Corporation
 Metro Community Development, Inc.
 Michigan Basketball Association
 Michigan Nonprofit Association
 Michigan State University
 Neighborhood Engagement Hub
 Pack Your Back
 PAWS Animal Rescue
 Planned Parenthood of Michigan
 Tapology, Inc.
 The Disability Network
 The Foundation For Mott Community College
 The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
 United Way of Genesee County
 University of Michigan-Flint
 Voices for Children Advocacy Center
 Whaley Children's Center
 Whaley Historical House Association
 Young Life of Genesee County
 YWCA of Greater Flint

UNRESTRICTED GRANTS 2019

- Arts, Culture & Humanities
\$1,027,513
- Education
\$299,420
- Recreation & Sports
\$210,200
- Human Services
\$166,925
- Youth Development
\$59,429
- Health Care
\$21,646
- Other
\$467,452



SPOTLIGHT ON GIVING

Income for Today, a Gift for Tomorrow

Frances Price

Frances Price was always active in her community of Flushing – generous with both her time and money. After she retired as a nurse from McLaren Flint, she wanted to continue giving back without sacrificing her financial security.

Her friend recommended that she consider a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) through the Community Foundation of Greater Flint. “If you want to help yourself, you can do it by giving to others,” Frances says.

The Flushing Area Senior Center is the beneficiary of her most recent gift. Frances is grateful to the Center for providing transportation to and from physical therapy appointments. “I felt I needed to give back to somebody that is helping me,” said Frances.

A CGA is a way for donors to receive a guaranteed income for life and an immediate tax deduction, while at the same time leaving a legacy to the charitable cause of your choice. Frances receives a quarterly payment from this gift. Upon her death, any annuity remainder amount will create the Frances J. Price Fund for the Flushing Area Senior Center. Grants from the Fund will support operations at the Center in perpetuity.



“If you want to do something, you can give to your community and still be earning something for yourself. So you are helping others while you are helping yourself.”

–Frances Price



Linda Pohly

She grew up in Flint’s historic Civic Park neighborhood, attended Flint schools, and established her legal practice here. For Linda Pohly, Flint is home and where her heart is. It is also the place for charitable clients looking to make a gift today, or through their estate plans.

“Sometimes people come in with an idea to address a particular community need and the conversation immediately turns to the Community Foundation,” Linda explained. “Keeping the money local helps preserve the future of the community.”

One of Linda’s clients, Amalia Hernandez, had a vision of helping women who were trying to get their life going. When she passed away, Linda helped establish the Amalia Hernandez Fund that accomplishes her objectives.

“The Community Foundation is local, flexible, and can address solutions to very different problems now and in the future. The nonprofit organizations may be different in 50 years, but the money will still be there.”

–Linda Pohly

WHAT EQUITY MEANS FOR OUR



 **PATRICK McNEAL**, Healing Practitioner
Director, North Flint Neighborhood Action Council

"We have to see each other as whole and human to get to that space where it is about the issue, not personal ... so you can be judged on the content of your character and not the skin you live in. I believe change can happen. That's when you care for someone as much as you care for yourself. But it is going to require that we be what we're not ... and own that."

 **DEBRA FURR-HOLDEN PH.D.**, Design Team Member
Interim Director, Division of Public Health,
Michigan State University

"Achieving equity is more than a goal, it is a human imperative. During the TRHT process, I gained a deep appreciation for how alike we all are. Behind all the letters, title and fancy clothes are human beings, doing the best we can with what we have, doing our best to make a difference. If we are ever to achieve racial equity, we must be willing to connect to one another as human beings."



 **MONA MUNROE YOUNIS**, Healing Practitioner
Executive Director, Environmental Transformation
Movement of Flint

"Across Flint, people talk about how there are two cities, one where life is good and another where life is a daily struggle with little hope in sight. I want to see a shift from having to constantly fight injustices – which is draining and takes years off our lives – to proactively planning an equitable future where everyone can thrive, feel valued and reach their highest potential. I see that as the potential for the TRHT initiative."



COMMUNITY

We asked six community leaders – all involved in the TRHT process as a Design Team member, healing practitioner or Vision Session host – what equity means in our community.



DEVIN BATHISH, Vision Session Host
Executive Director, Arab American Heritage Council

“During the Vision Sessions the importance of neighborhoods was so intertwined to an interconnected community. The question of equity vs. equality is something we live here every day at the AAHC. Life, family, security, happiness ... we all show these qualities in different ways. And we value the diversity in which we portray these things ... our shared humanity. We have to address the issue of equity so that everyone has an equal chance.”



GARY JONES, Design Team Member
Community Affairs Liaison - Flint
Office of Governor Gretchen Whitmer

“Growing up in Flint, I have seen this community at its best when we work together. When people from various racial, religious and socio-economic backgrounds find common ground, we make mountains move out of our way. I am thankful for a framework like TRHT to help guide us in the necessary work of being even better neighbors to each other, so we can focus our energy towards restoring and rebranding our beloved town.”



LESLIE ACEVEDO, Vision Session Host
Director of Library Operations, Flint Public Library

“We need to explore the word equity and its meaning. Each citizen needs to feel valued and equally heard in order for the community to make a commitment toward the betterment of all. We all want to be recognized for our skills, our work, our ideas and our talents in respectful, meaningful ways. We need to grow and thrive as respected individuals and not be cobbled by prejudice or preconceived ideas that try to define us.”



WE SERVE ALL OF GENESEE COUNTY

One measure of a community foundation is how well it represents and reflects the community it serves. Within Genesee County are five communities that have their own endowed community funds, but are still part of CFGF. These funds bring together the thinking of local leadership to best meet community needs. Here's a roundup of giving and grantmaking.

CLIO AREA COMMUNITY FUND

Education was a cause that Marian F. Langworthy and J. Kelly Luggger of Clio wanted to support for future students. Through their estate planning trust, the couple established an endowed scholarship fund for graduates of the Clio School District. The Marian F. Langworthy and J. Kelly Luggger Scholarship Fund is directed to students who wish to attend the University of Michigan-Flint full time. Students must hold a minimum 3.2 grade point average to apply for the scholarship.

DAVISON COMMUNITY FUND

As a young adult, Eric Allen remembers hearing about Charles Stewart Mott and the Mott Foundation, and the lasting legacy established by Flint's most famous philanthropist. When he was invited to join the Davison Community Fund Advisory Committee, Eric knew it would be right up his alley.

"As you see a child grow from small to big, I got to see the Davison Community Fund do the same thing," Eric says. "That's really how I think about the Fund ... something I care about a lot, want it to do well, want to see it grow, and more importantly help develop all the good things that came out of it. I think all areas of need are important, regardless of what they're about."

For 12 years Eric volunteered with the Advisory Committee, and took the lead as chair for two years. He recently joined the Community Foundation's Legacy Society to solidify his long-term commitment to the Davison area.

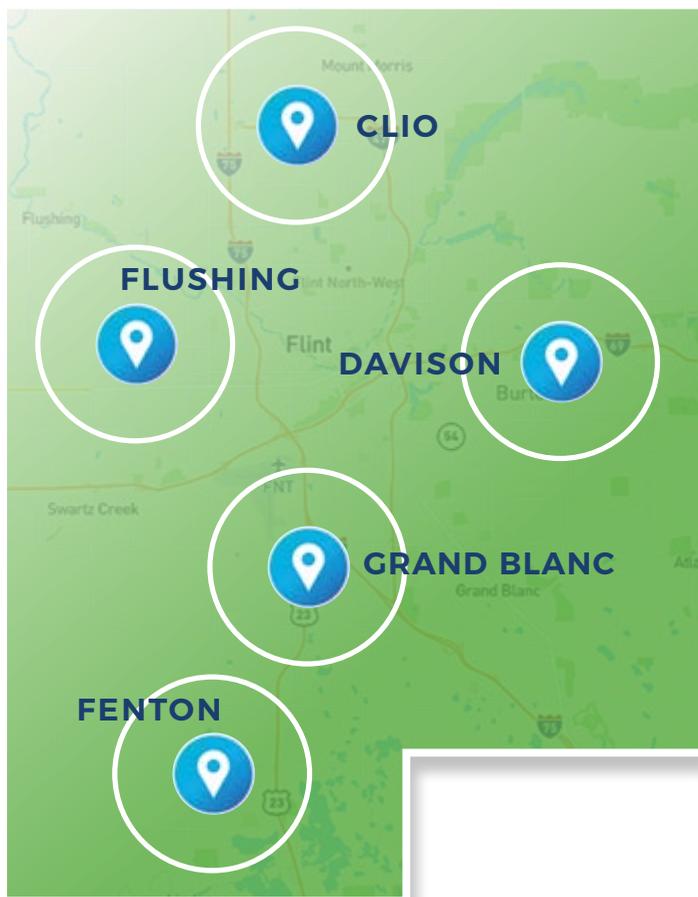
Eric's legacy gift will benefit the future of Davison. And his hope is that "Davison will continue to grow and prosper and continue to have that small town feeling."



“ I really feel like the community as a whole has provided for me and my family. I feel it's my duty to pay it forward. ”

—Eric Allen

GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE



FENTON COMMUNITY FUND

Frank Adams was active in community, volunteering with civic organizations and serving on the Fenton City Council for 11 years. When he underwent heart bypass surgery, his doctor advised him to start a walking routine. With wife June, the couple enjoyed their walks together in Fenton's parks.

"Frank took a lot of pride in Fenton's parks and recreation opportunities," said June. "It made sense to create a Fund that would support his passion for the environment."

When recreational enhancements were needed this summer at Linden County Park, a \$5,000 grant was awarded from the Franklin D. Adams Fund. The project includes adding 200 tons of beach sand to the beach volleyball area and redesigning the annual plantings around the beach restroom building and entrance sign. The planting beds will have small educational plaques identifying the types of planting material used. Park maintenance staff and For-Mar horticultural staff will be making the improvements this summer.

FLUSHING AREA COMMUNITY FUND

The Flushing Area Community Fund is led by local volunteers who share a passion for the place they call home. They bring an awareness of community needs, and advise grants to nonprofit organizations doing work within the boundaries of the Flushing School District.

Nine new members have joined the committee. Marty Barta is a retired educator from Flushing Community Schools; Elgie Bright is the Automotive Department Chair at Northwood University; John Boerger is a retired banker; Lauren Gasper is a stay at home mother; Justin Ham is an associate real estate broker; Kari Hartley is a real estate broker; Edward Henneke is a local attorney; Jane O'Dell works in social services; and Kimberly Strnad is in the insurance industry.

NOTE OF THANKS

Well-known community volunteers Don and Cindy Gansen are off to a new adventure close to family in North Carolina. Cindy was a founding member of the Flushing Area Community Fund, and Don recently chaired the committee. Thank you for sharing your time, talent, treasure and community expertise!

GRAND BLANC COMMUNITY FUND

The Grand Blanc Community Fund is joined by eight new members who share a passion for the Grand Blanc area. The committee advises grants to nonprofit organizations doing work within the boundaries of the Grand Blanc School District.

Donald Becker is a retired mail carrier and a member of the local planning commission; Andrea Bergstrom is a local communications professional; Harmony Lloyd works in planning and innovation at the Mass Transportation Authority; Tate Marisa is a financial advisor; Scott McDaniel serves in automotive management; Art Reyes is a community activist; Aimee Schwartz is an educator; Joanie Towarnicky is a community volunteer.

FLINT WATER CRISIS: LEARNINGS, SURPRISES AND WHAT'S NEXT

It's been five years since a national emergency was declared, marking the official start of the Flint Water Crisis. Travel anywhere and tell someone you're from Flint, the question still remains: "Is the water safe to drink?"

Our involvement in the water crisis has been focused on the long-term health and development needs of Flint children. Our grantmaking offers a long-term response through sustained and thoughtful interventions so children of Flint will have healthy and productive lives long into the future.

We've learned some lessons, had some surprises, and look forward to the day when all the lead pipes are replaced in the city. Perhaps then we can say, with confidence, "Yes, the water is safe to drink."



LEARNINGS

We learned that people from across our country truly care about what happened to the public water system in Flint. Access to clean water is an issue that resonates with everyone.

We learned that to build trust, we had to be transparent in our own work – sharing our long-term goals with the community.

We've learned nothing philanthropy can do alone is as powerful as what it can do if it's willing to let go of control, to follow as residents lead and take lessons from those who live the challenges day in and day out.

SURPRISES

We were surprised by the overwhelming support for Flint Kids Fund, raising \$17 million in one year from nearly 15,000 donors from every state and 13 countries.

As we began to develop our grantmaking strategy, we were delightfully surprised by the innovative grant proposals we were receiving from local organizations. A pop-up pre-school, mental health services on wheels, and fresh vegetable boxes delivered to the homes are only a few examples.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Moving from crisis toward recovery is hard because it isn't simply about replacing lead serving lines and celebrating the day Flint residents can drink from the tap. We have to be intentional about jettisoning the belief in a hierarchy of human value, dismantling systems of inequity and building trust across our community.

Prior to the water crisis, Flint children already faced significant adverse childhood experiences associated with poverty and racial disparities resulting from decades of economic decline. Today, foundation investments in Flint are helping our children access community-based systems that optimize learning, school achievement, health and development, social skills, and confidence. Foundation support has been critical in providing interventions that support positive outcomes for Flint children.

We continue to work with evaluators to better understand the impact of grantmaking investments from the Flint Kids Fund. The evaluation process will help us better understand the progress, achievements, challenges, and lessons learned through supporting programs that attempt to mitigate lead exposure among young children in Flint.

And we continue to raise money for the cause, understanding that the issues faced by Flint families are long-term.

To learn more about this work see our most recent reports, 2018 Flint Kids Impact Report and 2019 Water Quality Transparency Report. Both are posted online at www.cfgf.org.

CFGF PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL EQUITY COHORT



 Local Equity Network team members (L to R): Brett Hunkins, Carol Hurand, Carma Lewis, Lynn Williams, Mary Jo Herbig and Isaiah Oliver.

The Community Foundation Equity Network is a learning opportunity developed in response to community and national foundation interest in advancing equity and a desire among community foundations to better understand and make progress on the issue. The Equity Network is facilitated by CF Leads in partnership with PolicyLink and the Public Equity Group.

Six community foundations from across the country, including CFGF, are participating in the 2019/2020 Community Foundation Equity Network. Our team includes trustees Carol Hurand and Carma Lewis, President and CEO Isaiah Oliver, Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration Brett Hunkins, Community Engagement Officer Lynn Williams, and Director of Communications Mary Jo Herbig.

The team will participate in a year-long learning opportunity focused exclusively on equity. Other foundation teams that make up the cohort include the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Jackson Community Foundation, Rochester Area Community Foundation, Seattle Foundation, and Waco Foundation.

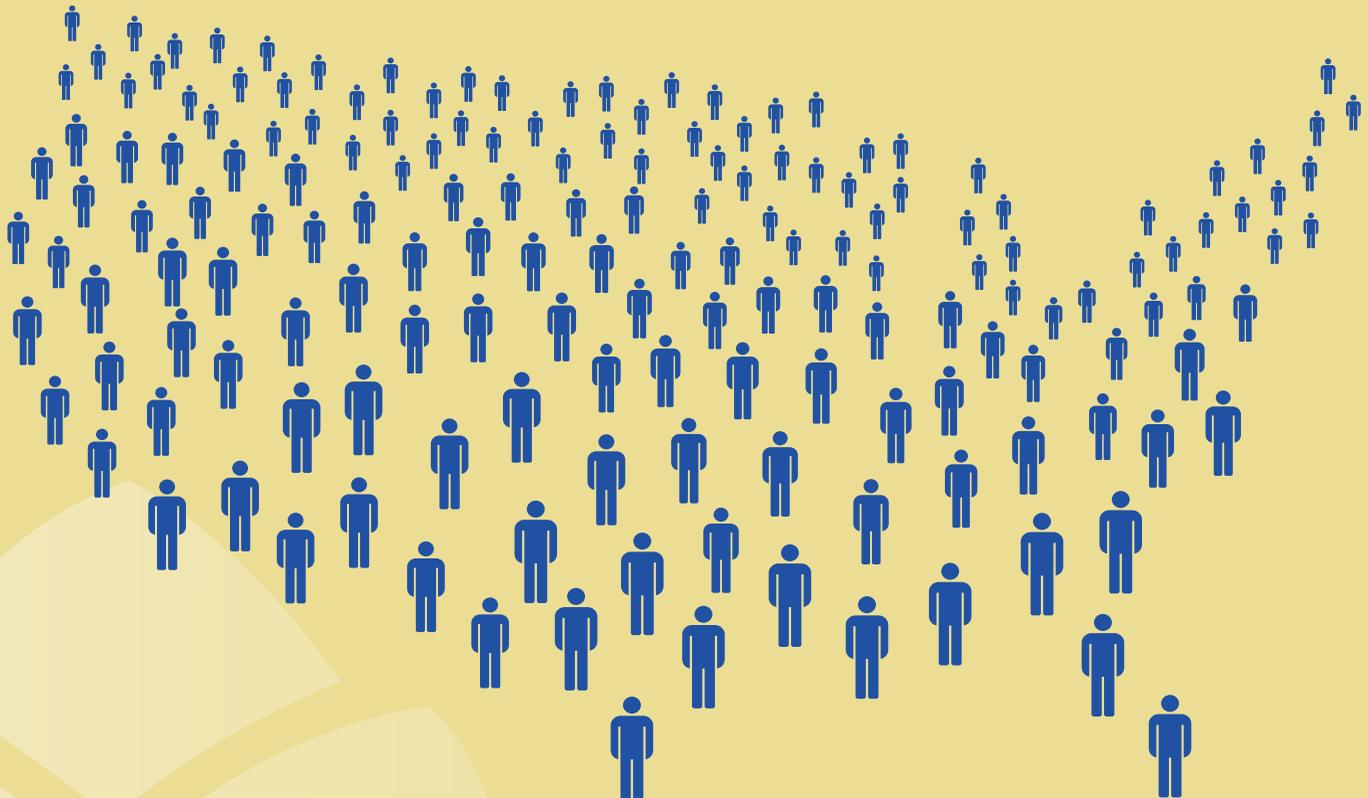


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CENSUS 2020: BE COUNTED!



Although the Census is one year away, we're mobilizing local nonprofit organizations to ensure a complete count for Flint and Genesee County. The Community Foundation of Greater Flint is serving as a census hub for the 2020 Census. Over the next several months, we'll be working to:

- Educate nonprofits about what's at stake for the 2020 census**
- Mobilize nonprofits in get out the count efforts**
- Award and manage mini-grants to local nonprofits**
- Serve as a key messenger on the importance of a complete count**

Our focus will be on those considered the hardest to count, including communities of color, immigrants, young children, the homeless and those traditionally served by nonprofits.