

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Community Panel Application

In August 2019 the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation distributed the *Focus on Flint* publication to every Flint mailing address. *Focus on Flint* captured community data and became a springboard for conversation between Mott Foundation staff and residents. We held 29 community conversations, where we spoke with over 400 residents. Residents told us repeatedly that neighborhood improvements were their top priority. As a result:

- We invited residents to submit ideas for improving neighborhoods in the following categories:
 - demolition;
 - beautification/cleanup;
 - home improvements; and
 - sidewalk/street repair.
- We received 625 ideas from 447 people via the website, notecards, mail and email.
- We announced that we would award \$1 million in grants for neighborhood improvement projects in 2020 — and that we would ask residents to vote on how the funds would be spent.

Community Panel

Because we want to work alongside residents every step of the way, we are inviting residents to apply to serve on a Community Panel that will help us design and implement the voting process for \$1 million in grants for neighborhood improvements.

Based on the priorities and ideas collected from residents in the fall of 2019, the nine members of the panel will be asked to:

- review the data collected last fall;
- offer input on the ideas for residents to vote on;
- provide feedback on the size of grants for projects;
- help us think through how the voting process should work; and
- encourage neighbors and other Flint residents to vote.

As with any community, there are diverse opinions on a wide range of ideas. Unfortunately, we won't be able to act on all of the ideas. But we will listen, engage and do our best to be responsive to community input about how to create an inclusive process. The Community Panel will not make final decisions about grants or grantees. Please see the additional information about the process and expectations on the following pages.

If you have questions about the application or need further clarification, please contact us at 810-237-4888 or focusonflint@mott.org.

Application Timeline

- Applications available February 12, 2020
- Applications due February 19, 2020
- Community Panel notified week of February 24, 2020
- Community Panel meetings March 9–26, 2020
- Public voting begins April, 2020

Panel Selection Process

Mott Foundation staff will select nine residents to participate on the panel. Applicants may be asked to participate in a 15-minute phone interview. We are committed to selecting a group that offers diverse perspectives and experiences.

Conflict of Interest

We understand that any applicant for the panel might wear multiple hats in the community. By submitting your application for the panel, you agree that, if selected, you will offer your perspective and opinions as a city resident rather than as a representative of a particular group or organization.

Confidentiality

We hope our staff can engage in candid discussions with panelists about organizing 625 ideas to a range of options for residents to vote on. By submitting your application for the panel, you agree that, if selected, you will keep information from the meetings confidential.

Availability

By submitting your application for the panel, you confirm your availability for the following dates and times:

- Monday, March 9, 2020 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, March 14, 2020 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 19, 2020 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 26, 2020 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

We understand that your availability might change due to circumstances beyond your control. However, panelists must attend the orientation on March 9 in order to participate in the process. These meetings will take place at the Mott Foundation offices at 503 S. Saginaw Street in Flint.

Thank you for your interest as we all focus on how to strengthen Flint's neighborhoods!

Applicant Demographic Information

We will strive to select a group of panelists who bring diverse perspectives across race/ethnicity, gender, educational level and more. The demographic questions we have included are intended to help us choose a group of residents from across the city who offer different life experiences.

Community Panel participants must be Flint residents age 18 or older.

Demographics

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Street Address, Zip Code _____

I am a Flint resident Ward _____

Gender

(Please circle one)

Female Non-binary
Male Prefer not to say

Who lives in your household?

_____ # of adults
_____ # of children

Age

(Please circle one)

18–29 50–64
30–39 65–74
40–49 75 and older

Race and Ethnicity

(Please circle all that apply)

Hispanic or Latinx Arab American
Black or African American Asian
White or Caucasian Other
Native American Prefer not to say

Education Level

(Please circle one)

Less than a high school education
High school graduate / GED
Some college / community college / business vocational school
College graduate
Post-graduate work / professional school
Prefer not to say

Employment

- Employed (full-time) *Employer* _____
- Employed (part-time) *Employer* _____
- Student *School* _____
- Homemaker Retired Unemployed Unable to work Other Prefer not to say

Special Accommodations

The Foundation is committed to selecting a diverse group of residents for the panel. If selected, do you need any special accommodations to fully participate? Please explain below:

Application Questions

Please provide a brief response (150 words or less) to each of the following questions:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Community Panel?

2. What are your current organizational or community affiliations? What is your role within these groups?

3. What do you like about working in a group? What do you find challenging?

4. What perspective or experience about neighborhood improvement do you bring to the panel?

How to Apply

Applications to serve on the Community Panel **must be received by 4 p.m. on February 19, 2020.**

You may submit your application in the following ways:

- Complete the online application on focusonflint.org/panel.

OR

- Download and print the application from focusonflint.org/panel and submit it in one of the following ways:
 - o Drop off a completed application at: Mott Foundation Building, 503 S. Saginaw St., Suite 1200, Flint, MI 48502 between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.
 - o Email completed applications to focusonflint@mott.org.

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