

Lessons from Flint: Creating and Maintaining Trust between People and Public Institutions

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May 17, 2017

For Immediate Release

EAST LANSING, Mich. – What happens when trauma causes trust to break between communities and public institutions? The aftermath can cause anger, uncertainty, and hopelessness. Two public forums in June offered by the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) Contemporary Issues Institute will explore how trust is created, built, repaired, or maintained between communities and public institutions.

“We rarely question trust until it’s broken,” said Robert E. Brown, CCED associate director. Brown staffs the CCED Flint office, and is a Flint resident. He and his family live in one of the neighborhoods profoundly impacted by the lead contamination issue that emerged in 2014.

Each forum is free and open to the public.

“Navigating Distrust”

Monday, June 5, 2017

5:30-8 pm

MSU College of Human Medicine, Flint Campus
200 East 1st Street, Flint, Michigan 48502

Tailored to the immediate concerns of Flint residents, topics of discussion include what trust is, what happens when trust is broken, and how it might be repaired. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from local leaders and experts, and discuss the challenges of creating and maintaining trust between the community and institutions when trust is broken.

“Creating a Trusting Relationship”

Thursday, June 8, 2017

9 am-12 noon

Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
219 S. Harrison, East Lansing, Michigan 48824

Designed for local and state officials who wish to build and maintain trust with their community/clients, this presentation explores what trust is, why it is important, strategies



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to build and maintain trust, and strategies to move forward where trust may have been broken.

Each event will include personal expressions of broken or trusting relationships through spoken word poetry performances.

More information is available on the [Center for Community and Economic Development's](#) website.

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The mission of the Michigan State University Center for Community and Economic Development is to advance MSU's land-grant mission by creating, disseminating and applying knowledge to improve the quality of life in distressed communities.

Michigan State University has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research and outreach for more than 150 years. MSU is known internationally as a major public university with global reach and extraordinary impact. Its 17 degree-granting colleges attract scholars worldwide who are interested in combining education with practical problem solving.