

**When Things Went Wrong with the Water:  
The Role of Professional Ethics & System Racism**

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MASSW Fall Conference 2017

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Dr. Marc Edwards

Real-world ethical dilemmas are gut-wrenching, life-changing experiences that require you to put yourself in harm's way to do the right thing. What class in ethics is teaching students that fact?



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**A Crisis of Epic Proportions**

- Man-made
- Massive scale
- Time frame: Not days, but months, and now years
- Political Demonstrations

*The official response was completely chaotic & disgracefully inadequate*

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### MASSW Mission Statement /SSW Role

- School social workers assist children and families by examining those **factors in the home, school and/or community** that are impacting a student’s educational success and then **assist in reducing those barriers to learning.**
- Champion the causes of members and clients, and **work to impact legislation** that will improve the delivery of school social work services and enhance the education of all children.
- Communicate information about how factors such as **family, culture, socioeconomic status, physical and mental health may affect students’ performance**

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### The Prologue

- In the 1980s, Flint was a thriving city of 200,000 residents with 85,000 General Motors jobs.
- Flint had one of the highest per capita incomes and among the best school systems in the United States.
- The loss of GM jobs and “white flight” resulted in Flint losing a large portion of its tax base by the 1990s.
- By 2014, less than 100,000 people remained, with 40 percent of them living below the poverty line.

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### The Prologue

In April 2014, under Emergency Management, Flint changed its water supply from Detroit-supplied Lake Huron water to the Flint River as a cost-saving measure, awaiting the new KWA pipeline to Lake Huron in 2016.

Shortly after the switch to the Flint River water residents voiced concerns regarding water color, taste and odor, and various health complaints, including skin rashes.



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## “Hard to Swallow”



ACLU of Michigan Mini-Documentary  
 Kate Levy & Curt Guyette  
 June 25, 2015

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## Emergency Managers & Race

*“Emergency managers have been imposed almost exclusively upon communities of color throughout the state—more than fifty percent of Michigan’s black residents have been placed under emergency manager rule, compared to only two percent of the state’s white population.”*

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## Race & Environmental Injustice: United Church of Christ - 1987

### Demographic Characteristics of Communities with Commercial Hazardous Waste Facilities

- Race proved to be the most significant among variables tested in association with the location of commercial hazardous waste facilities. This represented a consistent national pattern.
- Communities with the greatest number of commercial hazardous waste facilities had the highest composition of racial and ethnic residents. In communities with two or more facilities or one of the nation's five largest landfills, the average minority percentage of the population\* was more than three times that of communities without facilities (38 percent vs. 12 percent).

The ground breaking study on racial environmental injustice published in 1987 and replicated in 2007

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### Humanitarian Standards



The U.N. Sphere Project sets basic standards for access to water.

- Average water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene in any household is at least 15 litres or 495 ounces *per person* per day. Flint households received 1 case or 384 ounces *per household* per day.
- The maximum distance from any household to the nearest water point is 500 metres or .31 miles. Flint had five water stations for a city of 100,000 with distances of 2-3 miles.

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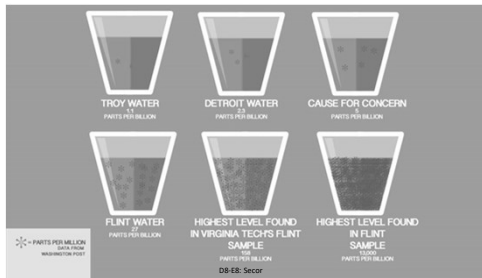
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### Flint's Toxic Water



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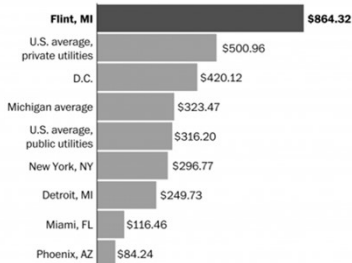
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### Flint's toxic water the priciest in the nation

Average annual water bill as of Jan. 2015, for household using 60,000 gallons a year



WAPQ ST/ WOKKBLOG

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Source: Food & Water Watch

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### Standards in Flint Water Crisis

Residents pick up water daily in cars, on foot, bikes or buses.  
No systematic distribution of water to vulnerable populations  
Limited dissemination of public information  
50% of Flint residents lack internet, many lack cable television

*"Folks are supposed to go to a local fire station, pick up a filter, a test kit, some water, and then return the test kit to the fire station for testing? That's the plan? Seriously? In 2016, that's the plan?"*

*Beverly Davidson, LMSW  
"No Words" January, 2016*

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### Timeline Toxic Flint Drinking Water

- Switch to Flint River April, 2014
- Fecal Coliform & Boil Advisories (3) Sept. 2014
- GM stops using Flint Water (corroding parts) Oct. 2014  
*"The news that should have shocked the conscience of a nation"*
- Elevated TTHM Levels Jan.2015 – Sept. 2015
- High Lead Levels detected and EPA contacted - April 2015
- Flint re-connects to Detroit Water Supply – Oct. 2015
- Mayor Karen Weaver: State of Emergency Dec. 2015

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### Virginia Tech Study Water Lead Levels in Flint

September, 2015



- Results: Flint water is 19 times more corrosive than Detroit water
- 20% of household >15 ppb
- For children ages 1-5 years, for every 1 ppb increase in the water lead level, blood lead increases by 35%.

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### Michigan Association of Black Social Workers Statement: Genocide

*The situation in Flint visibly brushes against the physical and mental elements of the crime of genocide through its potential to destroy, in whole or in part, an ethnic or racial group....*

*State officials and local citizens who tried to report this were rebuffed or ignored. The discounting of those concerns has led to irreversible brain damage in Flint's children, in addition to the future potential for significant bodily harm to all of Flint's citizens.*

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### Health Impacts

- Dramatic increase in reported cases of Legionnaire's disease (91) & at least 12 deaths.
- Fertility decreased 12%
- Fetal death rates increased by 58%

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Figure 3: Moving Average Fertility Rate Over Time in Flint and Comparison Cities



Note: The red vertical line is at April 2013, which is the last conception date for which no affected birth rates are included in the moving average.

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## Elevated Blood Lead Levels



- BLLs increased from 2.4 to 4.9, in some neighborhoods to 6.6 in others (Hanna-Attisha, et. al.)
- Widespread testing in schools and clinics was/is not necessarily useful. BLLs had likely peaked well before they were measured (30 day window)

**THESE RESULTS SIGNIFICANTLY UNDERESTIMATE EXPOSURE**

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## Elevated Blood Lead Levels

Increased likelihood of:

- Behavioral, learning and memory difficulties
- Speech impairment and hearing loss
- Antisocial behaviors
- Other possible health effects: Hematologic, cardiovascular, immunologic, etc.
- Little research on older children or adults

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## Elevated Blood Lead Levels

Impact on Cognition

- An increase in 1 to 4 ug/gI may mean an IQ loss of 3-7 pts.
- Not a very significant change for an individual child
- Bigger implications for the larger community
  - A small change in mean IQ, shifts entire population IQ distribution
  - Reduces high achievers (>130) and increases numbers of kids with low IQ's (<70)

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### The Impact in the Schools: September 28, 2015

- Flint Community Schools send a letter to parents asking them to bring water for their kids to drink during the day.
- Superintendent Bilal Tawwab said

*"My first reaction was, what are we going to do? I'm responsible for over 5,000 kids here in Flint."*

- District asks parents to supply bottled water, but acknowledges not every parent can supply this and asks for water donations.

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### The Impact in the Schools



- In at least three Flint Community Schools, children drank lead-contaminated water for up to 16 months.
- In at least one school water tests found lead levels of 101 ppb.
- Add this exposure to possible exposure for months in homes across Flint.

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*As often seems to be the case in the early stages of a crisis, schools are left to their own devices.*

**FLINT MI WATER CRISIS  
AN EDUCATOR VOICE**

*"There is no peace of mind. We have to worry about our students and then go home and worry about our own children."*

*Karen Christian  
elementary school teacher*

Education Votes  
[www.educationvotes.org](http://www.educationvotes.org)

*Out of 12-13 working groups in the Crisis Response, none related to meeting needs in the public schools*

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### Who and Where are Lead-Exposed Students?

- Based on MDE data, students & staff in 90 different buildings/ programs were exposed to lead in their drinking water at home and/or at school.
- Estimated 15,000 lead-exposed students with only 5,000 of them attending the Flint Community Schools.
- Lead-exposed students attend Bendle, Beecher, Bentley, Carmen Ainsworth, Grand Blanc, Kearsley, Mt. Morris, Genesee ISD programs, 18 charter school academies, 14 parochial schools and the Michigan School for the Deaf
- Foster children, children visiting relatives



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### Impact in the Schools

- Thousands of students were potentially exposed to lead in their water
- ALL of the students experienced emotional/psychological trauma
- The only identified support provided was training for Flint teachers in Psychological First Aid.
- By May, 2016, 9 school nurses were finally trained and placed in the Flint Community Schools.
- Funding was increased for Head Start and Early On.  
Pre-existing participation was only 20-25%

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### The Impact on Children

• Elementary school teacher Darlene McClendon said that when the extent of lead exposure was finally clear to the public, the news got down to her students.

*"I heard children say, 'Am I going to die? Am I going to get sick?'"*

How do you respond without tearing up?" McClendon told the Post. "I told them, 'No, you're not going to die. [But] I don't know that they're not going to get sick later.'"

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### A social work message from Flint

I am sorry for the delay in my response. In truth, since I am a Flint resident and working in Flint Schools, I think I have been a bit befuddled myself about the situation.

One thing I think could be helpful is to have training re: the effects of lead, what to look for in behavior. Some ideas about best practices in dealing with these issues, possibly some resources to use with parents in helping to educate.

We also could use some advocacy re: need for social work services in the schools. They are providing additional nursing services but nothing has been said about additional social work, and learning support services.

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### Genesee ISD as a Leader



- Hosted "Education" work group of the Red Cross
- Advocated for appropriate, accurate "parent friendly" information
- Discouraged school or community wide testing of children's Blood Lead Levels (BLL)  
(Provides false sense of safety)
- Some schools had "Blood testing carnivals"
- Urged a "universal approach"
  - Assume all children may have been lead-exposed
  - Provide universal interventions
  - Unintended consequences = lack of fluoride in bottled water.



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Supplemental Fluoride Treatments 29

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### Ethics: Exposing the Crisis

The people of Flint were betrayed by every single governmental agency that was supposed to protect them.

*"I believed them. I gave the water to my children to drink and I bathed them in it."*

When MPR contacted MDEQ for comment after initial reports of lead in the water, the Governor's spokesperson, Brad Wurfel stated,

*"Let me start here — anyone who is concerned about lead in the drinking water in Flint can just relax." (7-13-15)*

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### Exposing the Crisis: Ethical Heroes of Flint



Miguel Del Toral  
EPA Engineer  
8-24-15



Dr. Karen Weaver  
Psychologist  
Mayor of Flint  
12-14-15



Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha  
Pediatrician  
Hurley Medical & MSU Faculty  
9-24-15



Dr. Marc Edwards  
Engineer  
Virginia Tech Professor



Curt Guyette  
Investigative Reporter  
ACLU

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### Code of Ethics for Engineers (National Society of Engineers 2007)

- I. Fundamental Canons:** Engineers, in the fulfillment of their professional duties, shall:
1. Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.
  4. Act for each employer or client as faithful agents or trustees.
- II a. If engineers' judgment is overruled under circumstances that endanger life or property, they shall notify their employer or client and such other authority as may be appropriate.
- c. Engineers shall not reveal facts, data, or information without the prior consent of the client or employer except as required by law or this Code.

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### EPA Engineer: Miguel Del Toral

*"Hello. This is Miguel Del Toral from EPA Region 5, and I'd like to speak with you about problems with the drinking water in Flint Michigan."*

*Phone call from Del Toral to Lee Anne Walters & Dr. Marc Edwards*

One engineer spoke out, others only sent internal emails.

The EPA made efforts to discredit Del Toral:

*"...the report was the work of a rogue employee"*

*"...Mayor Weaver is making a mistake by citing a letter from one individual staff person who does not speak for U.S. EPA."*

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### Dr. Marc Edwards

"It was an extremely traumatic experience for me."



Scientists who cared less about facts and scientific truths if it meant protecting their reputation or advancing their agency's agenda.

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### Crossing the Imaginary Line

Journal of Environmental Science & Technology (Oct. 2016)

- Editorial harshly criticizes the actions of Dr. Edwards.  
*"The combination of meaningful research, mentorship and a few hours a week of outreach fulfills the needs of the researcher to improve the planet."*
- "Mature" idealists turn to outreach (committees, speeches).
- Facing injustice, an idealistic researcher (Dr. Edwards) might step over "the imaginary line" that separates the dispassionate researcher from the environmental activist.
- This undermines the standing of academics as objective seekers of truth & jeopardizes funding for research.

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From the desk of the Editor-in-Chief

Sorry kid, our funding is just too precious... no matter how just the cause. Our students might push back someday. Try giving Erin Brockovich another call.



We are worried about KHS in Flint.

Wavy Tower image by Flickr user COLLEAGUES EDITOR

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### American Psychological Association (APA) Ethical Principles & Code of Conduct

#### Principle A: Beneficence and Nonmaleficence

Psychologists strive to benefit those with whom they work and take care to do no harm. In their professional actions, psychologists seek to safeguard the welfare and rights of those with whom they interact professionally and other affected persons and the welfare of animal subjects of research.

#### Principle D: Justice

Psychologists recognize that fairness and justice entitle all persons to access to and benefit from the contributions of psychology and to equal quality in the ... services being conducted by psychologists.

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### Dr. Karen Weaver: Flint Clinical Psychologist

Dr. Karen Weaver served on a number of Boards in the Flint community, including the Board of Managers of the Hurley Medical Center.

*"I sat at that Board meeting and heard that the Blood Lead Levels of our infants had doubled, tripled and even quadrupled. As a clinical psychologist, I just couldn't sit back."*

*"I decided that I had to put some skin in the game"*



Although a "political novice" she became the first woman mayor of Flint on November 9, 2015.

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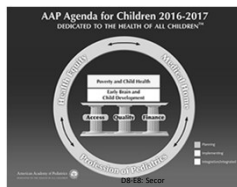
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### American Academy of Pediatrics College of American Physicians: Values

"Health and human rights are interrelated. When human rights are promoted, health is promoted... Physicians have an important role to play in promoting health and human rights, and addressing social inequities." *Ethics Manual*, Sixth Edition.



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### Hurley Pediatrician: Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha



Dr. Hanna-Attisha believed she had a moral obligation to inform the public. She was met with fierce scrutiny. The state denied the results, accusing her of causing hysteria. A week later, they reversed course and admitted she was right. Only then did Governor Rick Snyder announce a plan to reconnect Flint to the Detroit water supply.

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### Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics

The first national story on the Flint Water Crisis gave the appearance of granting far too much deference to those in power.

A possible violation of the Society of Professional Journalists' code of ethics.

- “Be vigilant and courageous about holding those in power accountable. Give voice to the voiceless.”
- Provide context and connections!

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### Ron Fournier: Washington Journalist

*“This would not have happened in a wealthy city like Traverse City, Michigan, or Snyder’s hometown of Ann Arbor...Where was the media? Why did a scientist in Virginia crack the case with a FOIA request, rather than an investigative journalist? For that matter, why did I write a column about Snyder’s leadership that didn’t even mention Flint? There’s no good answer, no excuse. I took my eye off the ball. I blew it.”*

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### The National Media

By coming late to Flint, the national media utterly failed to capture and depict all the agency and self-empowerment of the populace to speak for themselves.

They missed the many months of people at city hall and meetings complaining about the water and the rashes and illnesses, In a city 57 percent African-American and 40 percent poor, the media missed a story of citizen action that cut across racial and class lines to complain about, and campaign against, the use of Flint River water.

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### Institutional Ethics: Role of the Universities?



The University began testing its water supply in the fall of 2014 in response to the "boil water advisories." They found elevated lead levels in Jan and Feb 2015 and removed sinks & water fountains and installed filters. This Fact Sheet was not published until 1/2016. The University protected its campus water supply. They reportedly called the Flint Water Department. What else did they do to protect/communicate with the community? DB-E8: Secor

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### Institutional Ethics: Role of the Universities?



Kettering began testing their water "because of growing concerns" in early 2015 and found the campus water was safe. First communication with parents, students and community was apparently 9.16.15. What did they do regarding safety of their off-campus students & of the community? DB-E8: Secor

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### Some Social Work Heroes of the Flint Water Crisis



Michael Hood & Laurie Carpenter  
Crossing Water



Kenyetta Dotson  
Genesee Health Systems  
WOW



Allan Wachendorf  
NASW  
Crossing Water



Ella Greene-Moten  
MABSW



Senator Debbie Stabenow  
Water Resources Development Act



Libby Nealis  
SSWA/NEA  
Lobbyist



Beverly Davidson  
Crossing Water Volunteer  
DB/Biggie



Elizabeth Burtch  
Genesee  
Health Systems



Bryanna McGarry  
Policy Analyst Michigan  
Senate Democrats

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### The Significant Involvement of our Profession

A perhaps surprising number of social workers assisted in their roles as legislators, legislative staff, lobbyists, administrators and service providers at the local, state and national levels

Many social workers from around the state, as well as from the Flint community, as employees or volunteers were part of the dialogue, advocacy and relief efforts.

Social workers displayed their expertise in facilitating dialogue and problem-solving when stakeholders gathered.

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### NASW Code of Ethics

#### SOCIAL WORKERS' ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES AS PROFESSIONALS

##### 1.0 COMMITMENT TO CLIENTS:

Primary responsibility is to promote the well-being of clients..... However, social workers' responsibility to the larger society or specific legal obligations may on limited occasions supersede the loyalty owed clients, and clients should be so advised.

##### 4.06 MISREPRESENTATION:

a) Social workers should make clear distinctions between statements made and actions engaged in as a private individual and as a representative of the s.w. profession, a professional s.w. association or the social worker's employing agency.

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 **NASW**  
National Association of Social Workers

## NASW Code of Ethics

6. SOCIAL WORKERS ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE BROADER SOCIETY

6.01 SOCIAL WELFARE

Social workers should promote the general welfare of society, from local to global levels. Social workers should **advocate for living conditions conducive to the fulfillment of basic human needs** and should promote social, economic, political and cultural values

6.02 PUBLIC EMERGENCIES: **Social workers should provide appropriate professional services in public emergencies to the greatest extent possible.**

6.03 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTION:

(a) Social workers should engage in social and political action that seeks to ensure that all people have equal access to the resources .... and opportunities **they require to meet their basic human needs.....**

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 **NASW**  
National Association of Social Workers

## Code of Ethics:

### Social & Political Action, Cultural Competence

6.03 (b) Social workers should act to expand choice and opportunity for all people, **with special regard for vulnerable, disadvantaged, oppressed, and exploited people and groups.**

(c) Social workers should promote conditions that encourage respect for cultural and social diversity ..... **demonstrate cultural competence**, and promote policies that **safeguard the rights of and confirm equity and social justice for all people.**

Thanks to John Moradian, Ph.D, LMSW, Associate Director, MSU School of Social Work for this compilation of Ethics & Flint

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## Social Work Participation: Organizational

- NASW-MI Ad Hoc Task Force
  - Allan Wachendorfer facilitates weekly conference calls
  - Issues Statement and Recommendations
- Michigan Association of School Social Workers/SSWAA
  - Resolution Statement – widely distributed, on Flint Water Study website
  - Advocacy, Education Workgroup & Flint Coalition
- Two large crisis response groups:
  - Community Resilience Group: Genesee Health Systems (CMH)
  - Red Cross Community Partners

Crossing Water: Grass roots social work organization: Michael Hood & Alan Wachendorfer

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### Code of Ethics

#### National Association of Black Social Workers

As Black social workers we commit ourselves, collectively, to the interests of our Black brethren and as individuals subscribe to the following statements:

- I regard as my primary obligation the welfare of the Black individual, Black family, and Black community and will engage in action for improving social conditions.
- I give precedence to this mission over my personal interest.
- I adopt the concept of a Black extended family and embrace all Black people as my brothers and sisters, making no distinction between their destiny and my own.

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### Code of Ethics (NABSWS)

- I accept the responsibility to protect the Black community against unethical and hypocritical practice by any individual or organizations engaged in social welfare activities.
- I stand ready to supplement my paid or professional advocacy with voluntary service in the Black public interest.
- I will consciously use my skills, and my whole being as an instrument for social change, with particular attention directed to the establishment of Black social institutions.

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### Many Cultural and Socioeconomic Issues

- Pre-existing lack of trust
- Disconnect between the federal/state/local agencies and Flint citizens, grass roots & community groups
- Concern with allocation of resources to people of color (systemic racism)
- Pre-existing stigma regarding mental health services
- Lack of consistent, culturally sensitive and "reader friendly" information, i.e., foods & nutrition

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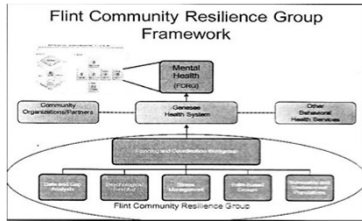
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Community Resilience Group Mtg. 2/26/2016

Concerns with the "partnership"  
 "Why is there a dotted line for us and not an arrow?"



"Are we going to tell you what help we need or are you going to tell us what help we are going to get?"

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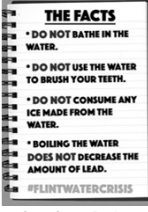
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Trust  
 Just don't let kids drink the bath water?  
 Bathing: What about the skin rashes?

VS.



DB-E8: Secor Steve Garvey Posting 56

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Social Work Responds: Crossing Water



- The initial conversation between social workers led to brainstorming intervention options, discussing strategies and a combining of resources.
- Michael Hood, social worker and MSW student along with Allen Wachendorfer of NASW created a model for crisis response and an organization of volunteers.

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### Social Work Responds: Crossing Water

- Addressing Gaps
- Providing information
- Restoring trust
- Meeting the needs of the undocumented, older adults, those with disabilities, deaf and blind communities and other vulnerable groups.
- Community canvassing

*The joke was, "We're not from the government, we're here to help you"*



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### Crossing Water: A Social Work Nonprofit

Crossing Water Founder/ Social Worker Michael Hood



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### Teri Metros: My Social Work Volunteer Experience

- First visit in February/March
- Wide variety of volunteers including many social workers, social work students (some from out of state), educators, state employees, retired folks, church affiliated folks, individuals primarily from mid-Michigan
- Initial need to deliver water and spread the word about the water problems was the main focus
- The challenge of the neighborhoods and feeling safe
- "Is the water safe for showering?"
- As a school social worker, not too surprised by what I saw
- The push/pull of making multiple trips: an ethical dilemma

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**Structure of Crossing Water Crisis Response (RRSTs)**

Rapid Response Service Teams include mental health teams:

- 2-3 people, at least one of whom has mental health experience;
- Two hour orientation for all volunteers before any home visits
- Safety paramount: never alone, calling in to headquarters when changing location, training includes assessing safety at each stop
- Teams visit only homes who have been determined to need assistance
- Data sheet on each home before deployment
- Data updated with each visit, data sheet evolves to reflect needs
- Debriefing and food at the end of each shift

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**Leaving home base, we were prepared to:**

- Deliver water
- Provide and install faucet filters, replace expired filters. identify homes with faucets not compatible with water filters
- Distribute hand sanitizer, baby wipes (waterless bathing), later adding diapers, food, bus passes
- Information sheets as needed for resources,
- Ask questions and assess mental health status/vulnerability of residents
- Listen

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**Crossing Water: Unanticipated Learning**

- People already in multigenerational poverty losing more ground with the loss of fresh water
- Social isolation that exists “under the radar”
- Anger and “conspiracy theories” expressed by residents:
  - “They want to get rid of us”
  - Was funding for new pipeline financed by Flint residents?
  - “If our neighborhoods were white and wealthy, we wouldn’t have to live like this”
- Deep need to be heard and to not be “invisible”
- The complexities of the erosion of trust

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### Crossing Water: Memorable Experiences

- Man living with no heat or water
- People with skin rashes of unknown origin
- Fears associated with letting strangers in their homes
- Visits that led to concerns about the welfare of children or older adults
- Anxiety prompted by fear of running out of water (“water hoarding”)
- Challenges with non-English speakers
- Examples of unexpected survival skills in response to crisis

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### More Questions than Answers

- Will there be an ‘end’ of the crisis and what might that look like?
  - KWA, water safety
- What should be the response in the schools?
- Will the ongoing social/emotional recovery be staffed and funded in a way that is ethical?
- When will trust be restored? Impact of trauma?
- Many Flint residents remain afraid to drink tap water, even with a filter.
- Flint State Senator Jim Ananich on trust



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### Flint Area Schools: October 2017

- Some grant funding announced for Flint Community Schools for counselors in addition to nurses
- Little apparent school assistance for the 10,000 students in other districts.
- Lack of clarity regarding the time frame for emergence of symptoms
- Special education students may have compounded effects of high BLLs and existing difficulties with learning. Special Ed Rules?
- ACLU Lawsuit

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### “Look for the Helpers”

*Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.*

*“We will need funding for medical homes, school nurses, school social workers, teachers and programs to provide as many safe grown-ups as we can find to let these children know that “it’s ok to feel scared, it’s ok to feel sad, and it’s ok to be who you are because you did nothing wrong. And, I will take care of you.”*

*These children will need helpers in every developmental stage of their life.”*

*Beverly Davidson, LMSW*

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### What can you do?



- Advocate/educate about the need for increased social work services in Flint and across Michigan
- Be mindful of our ethical principles and values
- Be mindful of systemic racism in your own schools and communities
- Volunteer if you can and/or donate if you can't:  
<https://www.crowdrise.com/crossingwaterworkingforflint>
- Pay your dues! Your dues help pay for advocacy for Flint and for all of MASSW's mission and goals.

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### Providing The Context: Comparisons

- Standing Rock water supply for Indigenous People
- Puerto Rico: Obtaining water from a former Superfund clean-up site
- Rockford Water Crisis - \$5000 home filtration systems!

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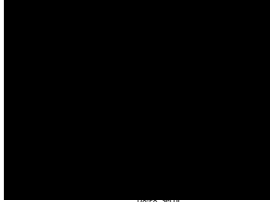
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### The Lasting Fear of the Flint Water Crisis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGiuFBx7CaA>



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### Maintaining Hope

*This crisis could be seen as a unique opportunity to be proactive, to build a model public health program to buffer the impact of exposure*

*Over time, the cumulative impact of positive experiences and coping skills can shift the fulcrum's position, making it easier to achieve positive outcomes.*

<http://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/inbrief-resilience-series/>

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Action indeed is the sole medium of expression for ethics.

— Jane Addams —

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