

# Flint Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association, Inc.



One of the many casualties of the COVID-19 virus is the ability of charities to get donations. The Flint PMC has chosen two charities to support in 2020.

The Shelter of Flint is a nonprofit organization serving low income and homeless individuals and families in Flint and Genesee County. Operating under the principle that housing is a basic human right, we work to address the growing needs of our community by offering an extensive housing program that not only provides emergency shelter, but also empowers families and individuals to achieve permanent housing of their own.

The agency began its operations on February 1, 1983 as the Emergency Night Shelter for Women. In July of that year, we began to add services and programs with a stronger emphasis on children. Their services later expanded to twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week and in the years that followed, the target population expanded to include male single parents and two-parent households.

Shelter of Flint has continued to grow as they have strived to meet the varied needs of the families and individuals in the community. Originally operating on Flint's east side, they were able to move to their present location in the former Cedar Street Children's center in 2013. Gifted the building by the Child Welfare Society of Flint, the move has increased the capacity from 38 shelter beds to 70 shelter beds per night.

Last year, Shelter of Flint provided a total of approximately 18,000 nights of emergency shelter to over 500 individuals (60% of whom were under 10 years old), served over 40,000 meals, and answered over 9,000 calls for help.

**My Brother's Keeper (MBK)** was founded in 2005 as a shelter for homeless men in the city. The shelter began as a warming center for people who needed a place to retreat from the cold weather. In its first winter, MBK served 480 people the first winter it opened as a warming center and food pantry.

In 2007, MBK changed to a 25-bed men facility for emergency shelter for up to 60 days. Today, MBK has grown into a 30-bed emergency shelter and a 19-bed Veteran contract for Ann Arbor and Saginaw Health System. MBK's vision is ending the homeless benchmarks in a manner that is polite, ethical, and effective.

MBK has built a reputation on integrity and customer service.