



## **Community Conversations**

Conversation with Mr. Leneau Smith, 11/2/2020

Transcribed by Patricia Ni'ma-Mohammed, MSW, LSW, THT Licensed Social Worker

---

In March at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, I had to walk 8 blocks daily to purchase cooked food. I usually would depend on my community health worker at Trenton Health Team for transportation. Because of my living conditions, I did not have a working stove.

I felt blessed to have Whitney at Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and Ashlee at Trenton Health Team. I was able to lean on them for support when I was feeling hopeless.

My greatest disappointment happened when the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) closed due to Covid. This is where my hot meals came from. When things get better, I would like to volunteer there.

My greatest fear moving forward is my health deteriorating, I have many long term health issues.

The greatest act of kindness that was done for me is that Patricia N'ima-Mohammed helped me apply for housing and Trenton Housing Authority allowed me to apply even though I don't have a birth certificate. I was born in the rural south, where birth records were recorded in the family Bible.

The greatest surprise came to me during this pandemic that was being approved for housing. As of November 1, 2020, I have a home to call my own. I am very grateful to everyone!