

LINDA M. CARTER-LEWIS BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

Linda Carter-Lewis, born and raised in Des Moines, is a life-long, active Christian, raised in Kyles A.M.E. Zion Church. In 1975, she and her husband and three sons joined St. Paul A.M.E. Church. In both churches she sang in the choir, was church clerk, on the usher board, in the missionary group and in the women's ministry group. In 2004, she married Rev. Irvin Lewis, Sr. Pastor at King of Kings Missionary Baptist Church and moved her membership. She is still actively working at King of Kings as choir member, church pianist, former Junior Class Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Secretary, Prayer Ministry and Bible Study and on the finance committee. Mrs. Carter-Lewis is active with the Central District Baptist Association and serves as President of the Women's Auxiliary. She is also a member of the Corinthian Baptist Church Prison Ministry Group. She served as President of the Ministers' Wives, Deaconess and Mothers' Board in the Iowa M&E Baptist State Convention for 5 years through 2016.

Linda M. Carter-Lewis served as president of the Des Moines Branch NAACP from January 2002 until December 2010, and has been active in the Branch for over 30 years on the Executive Committee on which she still serves as Branch Secretary. She is an active member of the Iowa/Nebraska State Conference of Branches and has been for 25 years. She has been serving on the Des Moines Civil Service Commission since 2008 and has recently been reappointed to continue serving through 2020.

Through her work in the NAACP, Ms. Carter-Lewis has been invited to serve on many boards and committees, among them are the National Advisory Board on Diversity at Drake University, the United Way Board of Directors, and selection committees for DM Police Chief, DM City Manager and DM Public Schools Superintendent. She served as Co-Chair of the African American Leadership Coalition and AALC/PAC for eight years. For over 10 years, she served on the Board of Directors of the YWCA of Greater Des Moines. She is a 30 year member and past president of The Links, Incorporated Des Moines Chapter.

For her community service Ms. Carter-Lewis has received many special awards and recognition; a few of the most noteworthy are the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) Brotherhood/Sisterhood award in 2004, the Woman of Achievement award in 2006, the 2009 Alpha Award of Merit from the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in 2010, the Community Award from the IA Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. in 2010, an Outstanding Service Award for the Des Moines Branch NAACP in 2010 and Iowa Juneteenth Citizen of the Year and Parade Marshall.

Linda is a servant of God, community-oriented, active volunteer who feels compelled to help and serve others.

In January, 2007, Linda retired from Communications Data Services, Inc. (now CDS Global) where she was Human Resources Employee Relations Manager and Trainer for over 20 years. CDS is a company with over 3,000 employees throughout the country and abroad. Prior to joining CDS, she was Employment Manager at Ardan, Inc.; before getting into human resources at Ardan, she spent 12 years in the transportation industry. In every position throughout her work life, she worked with people in person or by phone, in good situations and bad to extremely difficult situations and always, with the help of God, was able to handle them with care, concern and dignity because of her Christian upbringing and continued spiritual growth and guidance.

Linda Carter-Lewis was educated in the Des Moines Public School System. She attended North High School and Des Moines Technical High School, graduating number 4 in the top three percent of her class, and she attended Drake University. She earned the Senior Professional Human Resources (SPHR) distinction through the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) certification program.

Linda was married to the late Reverend Irvin Lewis, Sr., Pastor of King of Kings Missionary Baptist Church until his untimely death on July 5, 2010. He retired in 1993 from the U. S. Army as a Sergeant Major after serving over 26 years. They had six beautiful years blessed by God. She has three grown sons, Bob, Steve and Rick, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was married for over 30 years to the late Larry W. Carter, who died in 2000. He retired in 1997 from Wells Fargo Financial as an Assistant Vice President. He was also local NAACP President for 12 years and a member of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP for 12 years.

Addendum:

Additional organizations/groups currently working with:

- Community Ambassador Program with the Des Moines Police Department

 - On the CAP Advisory Board

- CAP Volunteer for the Fuel Up First Breakfast Program at East High School

- Joshua Christian Academy Partner

- Baptist Women's Union, Musician

- United Way Education Cabinet

- Larry W. Carter Scholarship Committee

- Building Bridges (Informal small multi-cultural group reaching out in different ways:

 - Building Bridges of understanding for living together in our diverse communities.)

- Commissioner to Select Polk County District Court Magistrates