

12th Suffolk District Representative *Dorchester Reporter* Questionnaire: Carlotta Williams

1. What is your name, age, place of birth, and present address?

My name is Carlotta M. Williams but affectionately known as C.C. I am originally from Columbus, Ohio. I currently reside in Hyde Park section of the city.

2. Please describe your professional background. Feel free to note any experience that may be relevant to your candidacy.

I currently work for Boston Health Care for the homeless, where I have been employed there well over 25 years. I presently assist disable homeless citizens apply for Social Security Benefits in hopes of improving the quality of their lives.

3. Please describe your community background. Feel free to note any local organizations with which you have been involved.

I currently am a proud lifetime member of the Boston Branch of the NAACP, where I was past chairwoman of the Education Committee. I am a former member of Boston Parents Organizing Network (BPON) where I worked with parental advocates who fought for making BPS stronger in serving the needs of its students from all walks of life. I am now involved in a grassroots effort to start a spin off called Parents On the Move (POM).

4. What is your party affiliation and how would you characterize your political ideology?

I am a registered Democrat. My political ideology more or less is somewhat on the moderate to conservative side. I do believe that sometime families and individuals who struggle in various areas of their life - be it employment, healthcare, housing mental health, substance abuse, and education - should be offered some assistance to help them get back on track.

5. Please name up to three (and at least one) of your political role models? Please feel free to explain your choices.

Shirley Chilsom. I am glad you asked this question, as I was somewhat stumped and never really thought about it. However, she demonstrated to me in 1968 as a little girl I could grow up and do great things.

Condoleezza Rice. I respect her a great deal. She lost friends during the civil right movement in Birmingham Alabama and managed to continue her struggles, stick to her goals, work hard and became the 1st woman of color to be Secretary of State from 2005 -2009. That must have taken an enormous amount of courage to get on the world stage like that.

6. If this is your first run for office, what drew you to seek this post? If you are an incumbent, what would you like to build upon from your earlier terms?

This is my second attempt at trying to run. I am the only women in the race also. I love interacting with the voters hearing their concerns in what they want from someone who wants to represent them.

7. What are some policy platforms you would like to highlight during the campaign?

Only woman in the race; grew up in a small business; public safety; economic development without displacement; continue to increase the affordable housing stock; advocate for a world class tech /vocational school

8. Boston is in the midst of a development boom. How do you plan to advocate on behalf of the neighborhood in ensuring responsible development projects are considered and constructed?

Work on increasing strong neighborhood participation; slowly increase the percentages of real affordable housing stock when using federal money in building and accepting projects; re-examine Area Medium Income (AMI).

9. What would be your top priority if elected?

Advocate for placement on committee assignments that reflect the work I have done well over 25 years. A clear voice needs to be at the table with the right information.

10. What in your experience to date will most help you to be an effective State Representative?

From the wide variety of work I have done over the years -- such as substance abuse, domestic violence, child welfare, health, education, housing, veteran services, and small businesses -- you would need someone who has a little bit of everything on the plate who could best serve the district