Trabian Shorters is a retired tech entrepreneur, social innovator and a former foundation executive who is now “hacking” solutions to America’s narrative on race. He is the founder of BMe Community, a social network of all races and genders who believe in valuing all members of the human family, recognizing black men as assets, and building more caring and prosperous communities together. With offices in Akron, OH, Baltimore, Detroit, Miami, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh; BMe Community is expanding across the U.S.

He is the co-editor of the 2015 New York Times bestseller Reach: 40 Black Men Speaking on Living, Leading and Succeeding. As vice president of communities for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation from 2007 to 2013, Trabian helped build communities in 26 cities and directed the Knight Community Information Challenge, to experiment with funding new projects. He also directed a portfolio of $300M in active grants and endowments. Shorters’ pioneering work in ‘asset-framing’ earned him an Aspen Institute fellowship, an Ashoka fellowship in 2015 and an opportunity to work with the Commission for Security & Cooperation in Europe.

The central premise of asset-framing is to identify people by their contributions rather than their costs and then to engage them in living out their aspirational identity for themselves and society.