

2018 SUMMARY REPORT

www.legacyfdn.org/onthetable

#OnTheTable219



**on the
TABLE**
your voice matters.

The Conversations

On the Table Year 2

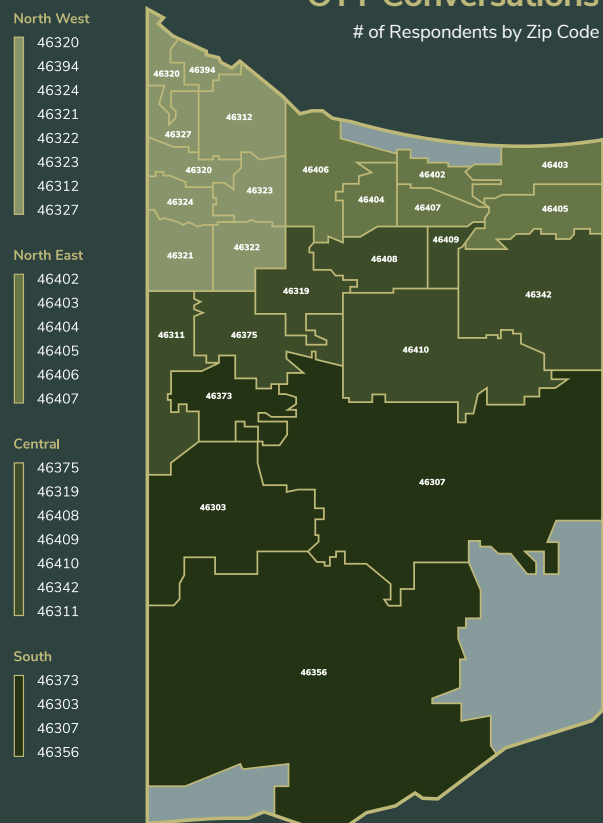
In 2018, Legacy Foundation embarked on another year of *On the Table* conversations, bringing together approximately 3,000 residents - nearly double the amount of participants from year one. Groups large and small, from junior high students to senior citizens, gathered at 144 sites across Lake County, Indiana, to break bread and engage in conversation about ways to improve the neighborhoods in which we live and work.

The data results are based on an online and paper survey of 1,212 adults who participated in Legacy Foundation *On the Table* conversations on September 26, 2018. Participants represented 25 zip codes throughout Lake County. The youth section of this report is based on survey responses from 399 youth who participated in *On the Table* in Lake County. Survey results from youth and adult respondents were collected and analyzed by Hart Research Associates and Public Opinion Strategies.

Legacy Foundation was one of 10 community foundations across the U.S. replicating the *On the Table* initiative in 2018 with funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Support for *On the Table* is one part of the Knight Foundation's efforts to help cities attract and keep talented people, expand economic opportunity and create a culture of civic engagement.

Where Respondents Attended OTT Conversations

of Respondents by Zip Code



On the Table 2018 Areas

Northwest 31% | Northeast 14%

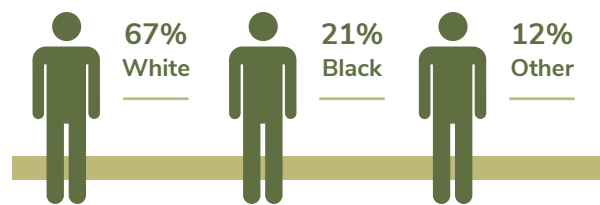
Central 23% | South 24% | Other 8%

Who Responded?

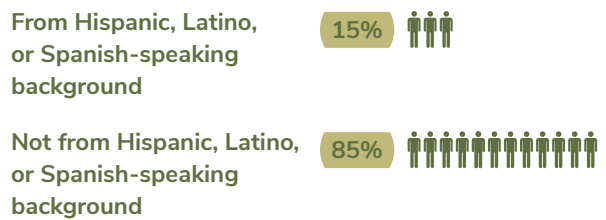
The Participants

Legacy Foundation saw a new audience of participants in 2018. Seventy-nine percent (79%) of those who took-part in a conversation did so for the first time. Slightly more than half of the participants held a bachelor's degree or higher. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of respondents identified politically as leaning or strong democrat and 68% vote in at least half of the local elections.

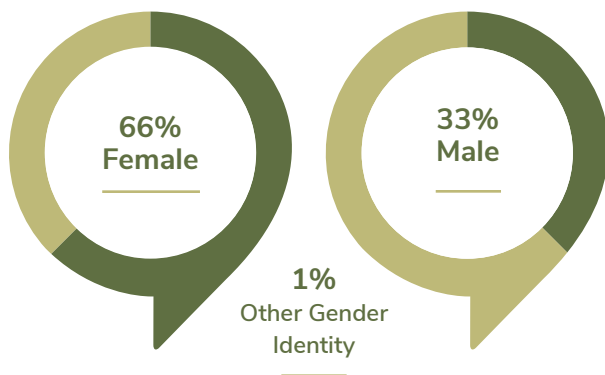
Race



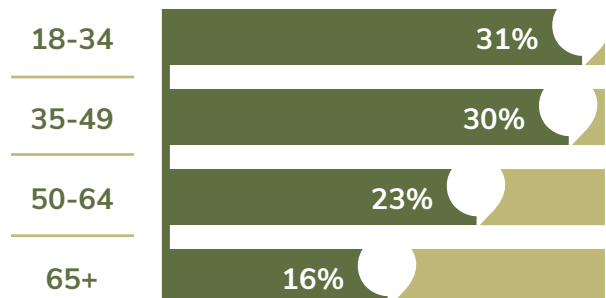
Ethnicity



Gender



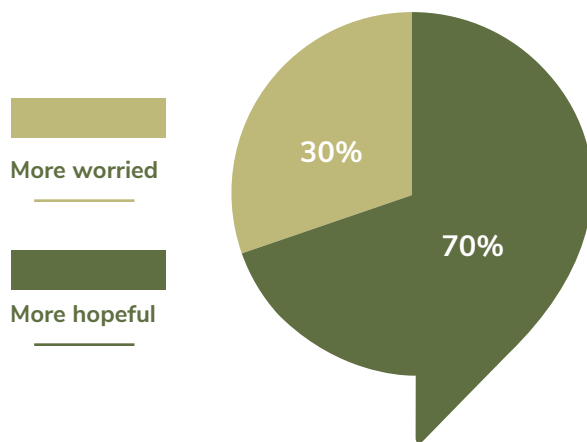
Age



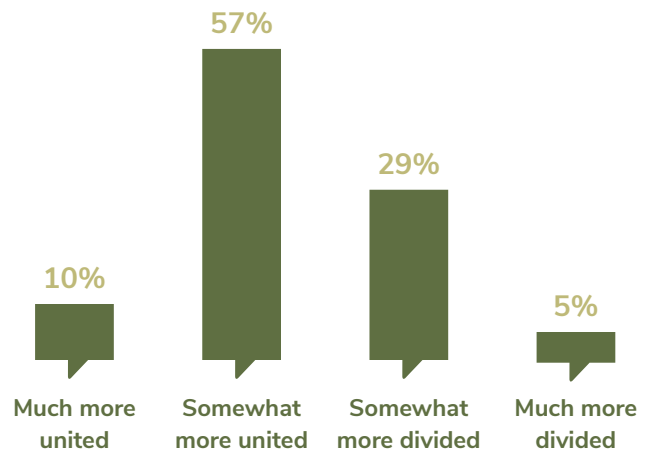
What We Learned About Their Community Outlook

Looking ahead to the future, participants are more hopeful than worried about the future of their communities. They feel united with their neighbors when it comes to addressing important goals, and they feel the areas in which they live have a strong sense of community.

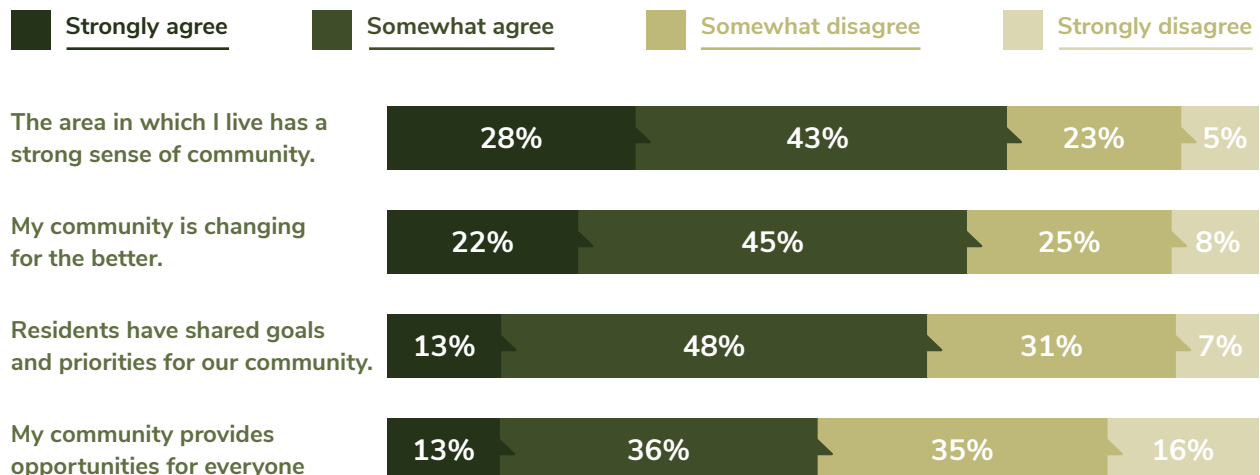
Looking ahead to the next five years or so, do you feel more hopeful or more worried about what the future holds for your community? n=1,195



Do you think people in your community are more united or more divided when it comes to addressing important goals and challenges? n=1,196



Indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement. n=1,197

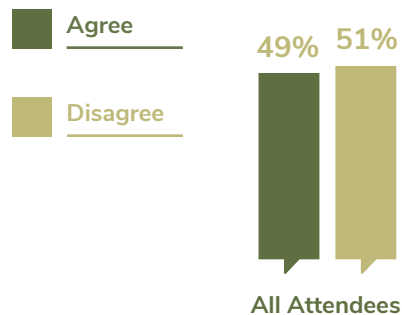


Even Among the Most Engaged, There is a Sense of Inequity

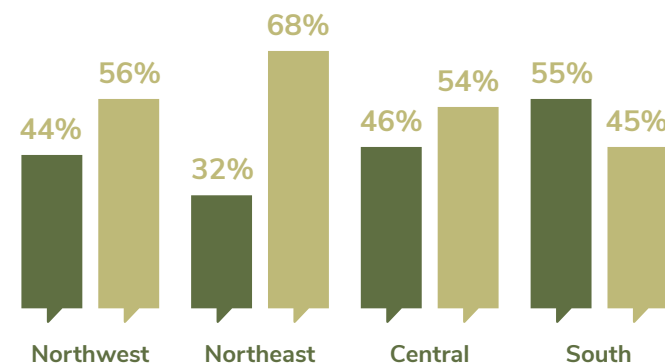
Despite their optimism about the future and sense of unity with their neighbors, many On the Table participants feel their community could do a better job of providing equal opportunities for all – 51% disagree that their community provides opportunities for everyone. That number climbs even higher when looking at breakdowns along location, age, and race.



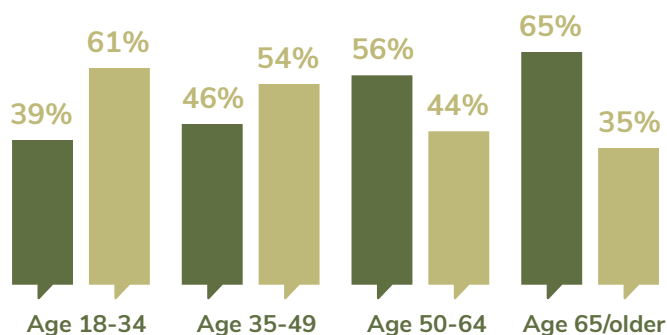
My community provides everyone opportunities



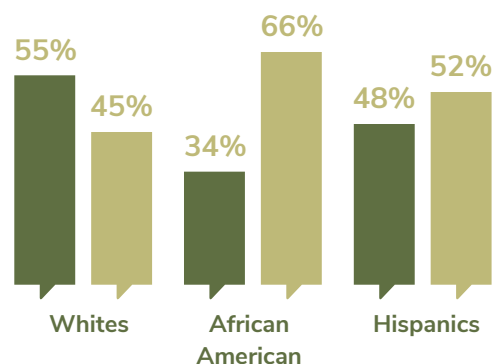
Region



Age



Race/Ethnicity

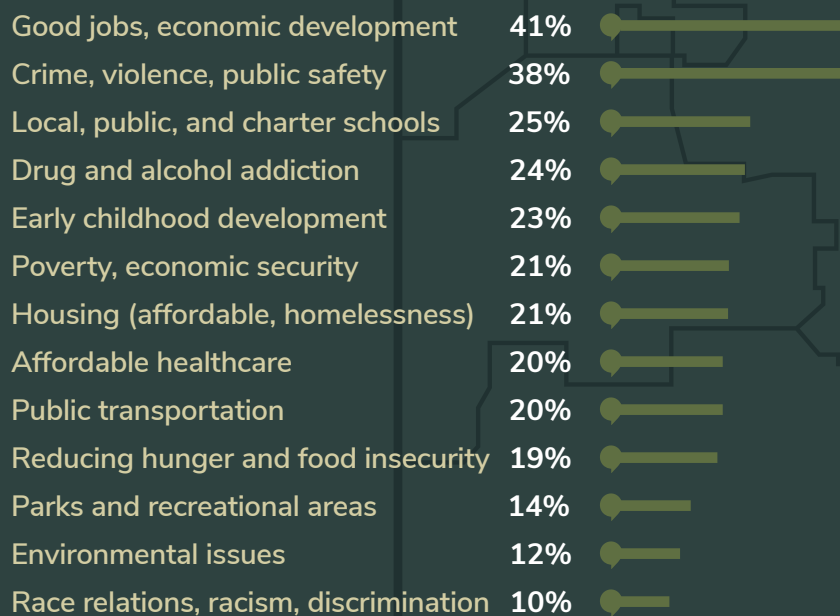


About the Conversations

Identified Priorities

The challenges and issues that 2018 On the Table participants feel are most important for their community to address are jobs and economic development and issues related to crime violence and public safety. Economic opportunities and safety are the top two priority issues, regardless of gender, age, education level, and race.

3 most important issues for my community to address



Specific Priorities for Addressing Important Issues

During the 2017 On the Table conversations, participants identified four priority areas they would like their community to address. A year later, On the Table participants who completed the survey in 2018 were asked to prioritize goals within each of these areas: education and youth development, economic issues and poverty, equality, and transportation.



Education and youth development n=1,161

Quality schools with qualified teachers

48% 

Job/vocational training

41% 

Adequately preparing high school graduates for college

39% 

Transportation n=1,165

Road repairs/improvements

56% 

Access to bus service

49% 

Access to train service

29% 

Economic issues and poverty n=1,168

Availability of good-paying jobs

53% 

Lack of training and skills for the workforce

48% 

Drug use and addiction

37% 

Equality within our community n=1,131

Lack of access to core services

58% 

Racism

40% 

Accessibility for people with disabilities

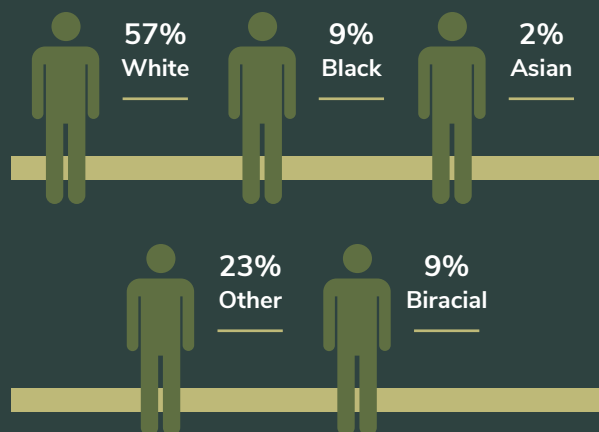
39% 

Youth Perspectives

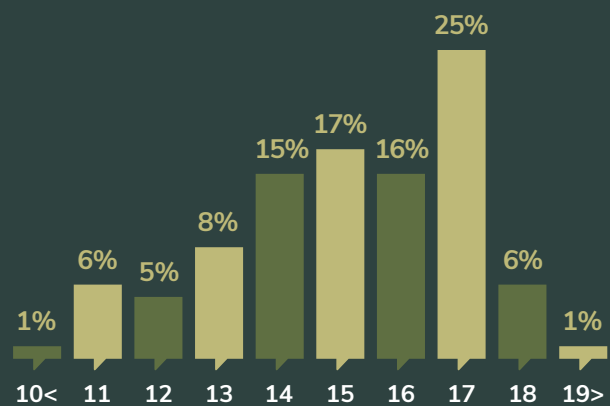
Youth Demographics

On September 26, 2018, Legacy Foundation hosted its 2018 On the Table conversations with youth in partnership with school districts, churches, and nonprofit groups across Lake County. Approximately 790 youth participated in the conversations, and 399 youth whose parents provided consent to Legacy Foundation or its partners completed the online youth survey.

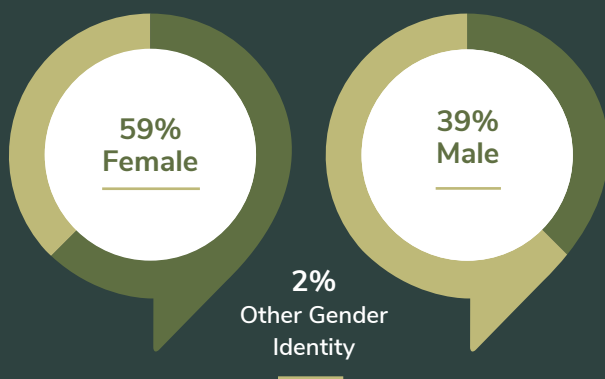
Race



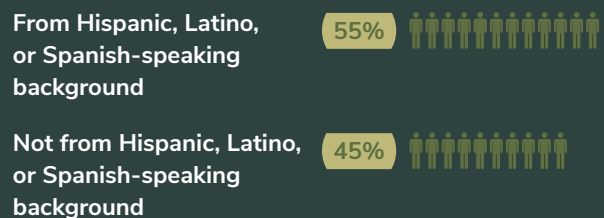
Age



Gender



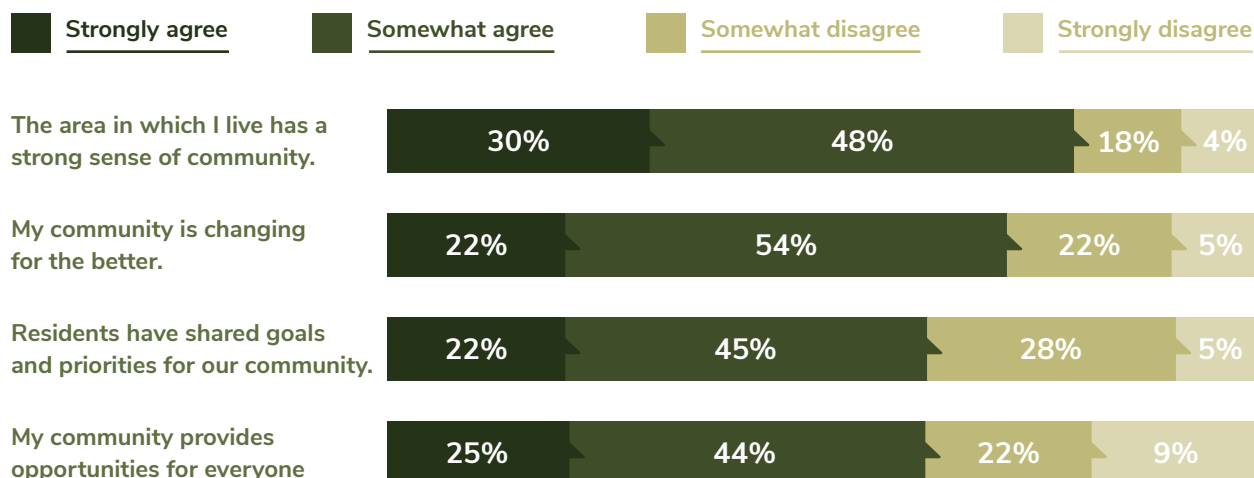
Ethnicity



Community Outlook from Youth Voices

2018 Lake County On the Table youth participants who completed the survey view their community positively. More than seven in 10 feel that their community is changing for the better. Seventy percent (70%) are more hopeful than worried about the future of their community. Nearly eight in 10 think that the area where they live has a strong sense of community.

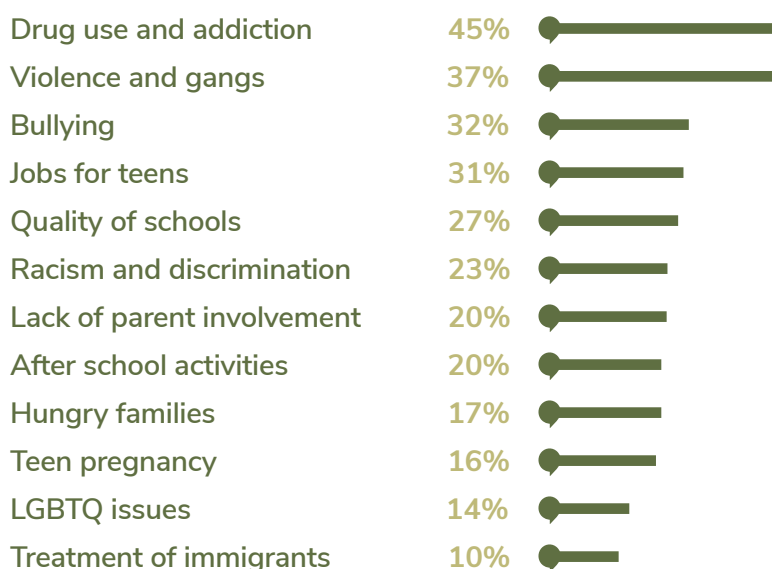
Indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement.



Youth Identified Priority Issues

Youth across the board identify drug use and addiction as one of the most pressing issues facing their peers, though those ages 15 and older are more likely to see it that way. Youth of color put violence and gangs on par with drug use and addiction. Youth of color are also slightly more likely than whites to select racism and discrimination as a top priority that needs to be addressed.

3 most important community youth issues to address



Be a Catalyst for Change

Making an Impact

Adult and youth On the Table participants are optimistic about the future and believe they can help make their community a better place to live. Eighty-six percent (86%) of adults believe they can have a moderate to big impact on making their community a better place to live. Three in four youth believe they can effect change, including 30% who think they can have a big impact.

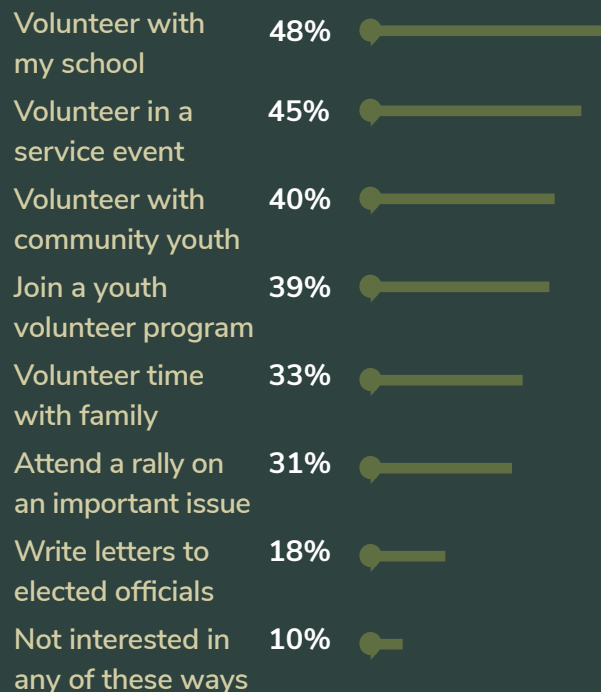
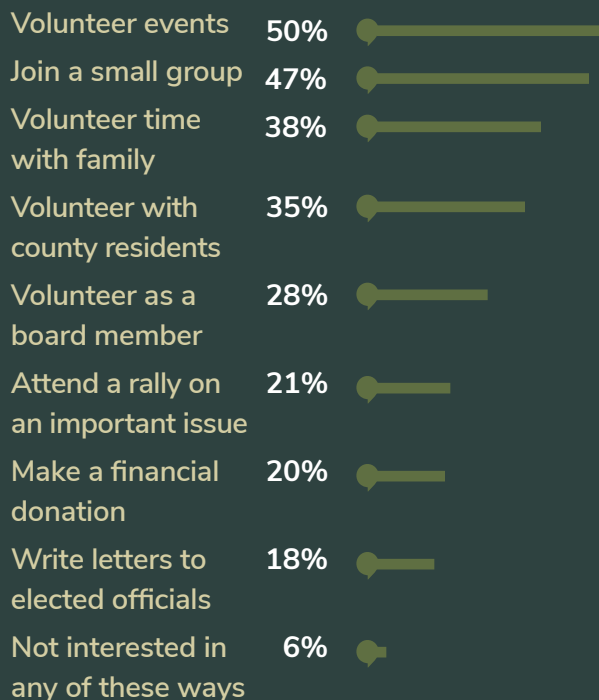
Those who engage in On the Table are interested in getting involved through a number of means. Adults want to participate in volunteer service events and join small discussion groups about issues that are important to them. Youth indicate most wanting to volunteer at their school or in their community.

Adults

Youth

3 ways you would be most interested in getting involved in your community

Results for all respondents (n=1,177)



Take a Deep Dive into Important Issues

We are launching Legacy Foundation's On the Table Focus Groups, a series of in-depth conversations on the topics identified as a priority for our communities to address. Discussion groups will focus on the following areas: jobs and workforce development, crime and public safety, public transportation, and youth identified priorities.

Get Involved

- Let us know you are interested in joining one (or more) of the focus groups by visiting the sign-up form at legacyfdn.org/OnTheTable
- Legacy Foundation will bring together each focus group for a series of in-depth conversations facilitated by a consultant.
- Group members will identify specific challenges to be addressed within the designated topic area.
- Once the group establishes its scope of work, members will move on to creating an action plan with assistance from the consultant and industry experts.
- Legacy Foundation may provide funding to support the implementation of action plans.

Apply for a Youth Philanthropy Service Learning Grant

Help youth take part in a volunteer project. Legacy Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy Service Learning Grants offer young people the opportunity to implement a hands-on service project in Lake County. Service projects can be completed within the classroom or outside of school by students with adult supervision. The goal of these grants is to leverage the strengths of youth to affect change in their communities. Examples of applicant organizations include, but are not limited to:

- Educational institutions (including public, private and charter schools)
- Faith-based organizations
- Community-based nonprofits
- Municipal/county youth departments
- Youth clubs and student councils
- Church youth groups (for non-denominational community based activities)
- Visit legacyfdn.org/grants to apply!





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