

CONVERSATION GUIDELINES



At On The Table Central Georgia, hosts have the flexibility to guide their conversations in a way that works best for them. Some prefer to let them unfold naturally, using some or all of our general conversation prompts. Others may have a specific topic they want their guests to discuss. Additionally, if you'd like to tackle one or more of the pressing issues that were identified in previous year's conversations, we've compiled a list of conversation prompts to help you get started. You can choose to discuss one, a few, or all of the prompts – it's completely up to you! Our only requirement is that you come to the table and engage in meaningful conversation with each other. Let's create a space where everyone's voices can be heard and valued.


GENERAL

- How might we leverage the strengths of Central Georgia to enhance our community?
- How might we identify and address the most critical issue or opportunity in our community or neighborhood?
- How might we inspire and motivate more people to get involved in the community and/or their neighborhood?
- How might we address the needs and opportunities in Central Georgia, and what role can individuals and collective action play in that effort?
- How might we collaborate to tackle a specific problem facing our community?
- How might we make a meaningful impact on our community with just \$100 and one day?
- How might we turn the ideas discussed today into actionable steps to advance our community?

Top issues identified as community priorities in previous years:

- *POVERTY, ECONOMIC SECURITY, AND HUNGRY FAMILIES*
- *JOB AVAILABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*
- *CRIME, VIOLENCE, AND PUBLIC SAFETY*
- *RACE RELATIONS*
- *PHYSICAL HEALTH*

To learn more about conversations from previous years, please visit onthetablecentralga.com/impact.



Open ended questions that can be asked in different conversations

POVERTY, ECONOMIC SECURITY, AND HUNGRY FAMILIES

- How might we define poverty and its effects on our community?
 - How might we design interventions to address those effects?
- How might we identify and respond to the needs of people struggling to make ends meet in Central Georgia?
 - How might we learn from these experiences to inform future actions?
- How might we create and increase economic opportunities in our community for the benefit of all?
 - What are some solutions and ideas to increase or create economic opportunities for the benefit of all?
- How might we evaluate the effectiveness of current resources available to address poverty in Central Georgia? How might we identify and advocate for additional resources that are needed to improve outcomes for our community?

JOB AVAILABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- How might we create more job opportunities for people with diverse backgrounds and skill sets?
- How might we encourage the growth and expansion of small businesses in our community?
- How might we attract new businesses and industries to our area to create more jobs and stimulate economic growth?
- How might we improve access to job training and education programs to better prepare people for the workforce?
- How might we support and invest in local entrepreneurship to help create jobs and drive economic development?
- How might we foster a culture of innovation and creativity to encourage the development of new businesses and industries in our community?
- How might we promote equitable economic development that benefits all members of our community, particularly those who have been historically marginalized or underserved?

CRIME, VIOLENCE, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- How might we create more safe spaces in our community? What factors contribute to a sense of safety for individuals?
- How might we address the factors that contribute to feelings of insecurity in certain areas of our community?
- How might we collaboratively address crime and safety concerns in our communities? What are some potential solutions and ideas?
- How might we identify and secure the necessary resources to address crime and safety issues in Central Georgia?
- What additional resources may be needed?

RACE RELATIONS

- How might we address the structural and institutional forms of racism that impact our community and perpetuate inequality?
- How might we educate ourselves and others about the history and impact of racism, and work to promote antiracism in our community?
- How might we create opportunities for open and honest dialogue about race and racism in our community, and build bridges across different cultural and racial groups?
- How might we empower and support individuals and organizations that are working to address racism and promote equity in our community?
- How might we ensure that our policies and practices are inclusive and equitable, and do not perpetuate or reinforce racism and inequality?

PHYSICAL HEALTH

- How might we promote healthy lifestyles and habits that support physical health in our community?
- How might we increase access to affordable and quality healthcare for all members of our community?
- How might we address the social determinants of health, such as poverty and inequality, that impact physical health outcomes in our community?
- How might we create opportunities for physical activity and exercise, particularly in areas where access to recreational facilities and green spaces is limited?
- How might we improve the availability and accessibility of healthy food options, particularly in areas with limited access to fresh and nutritious foods?
- How might we increase awareness and education around preventive care and early detection of health issues, such as regular screenings and check-ups?
- How might we support and promote mental health and wellness, recognizing the important connection between physical and mental health?

HOUSING ISSUES

- How might we increase affordable housing options for all members of our community, regardless of income level?
- How might we improve the quality and safety of existing housing in our community?
- How might we address the issue of homelessness and provide support and resources to those in need?
- How might we improve access to information about housing resources and programs for those who may not know where to turn for assistance?

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!



These 'How might we' prompts can serve as useful guides for On The Table hosts to steer conversations towards productive and actionable ideas. By asking open-ended questions and focusing on solutions, hosts can facilitate meaningful discussions that lead to positive change in their communities. Feel free to use these prompts in whole or in part, and tailor them to fit your specific group and setting.

SURVEY



Thank you for your commitment to making a positive impact in our community! For more information about On The Table and other ways to get involved, please visit onthetablecentralga.com.

Lastly, be sure to remind your guests to take the survey.

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