

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Social Justice

on the table
Your voice matters.



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Foundation

Through collaboration, we have the opportunity to reimagine how we can make our community more livable, equitable, and just for all community members. Intersectional approaches that center race, class, gender, sexual orientation, disability and immigration status ensure this work is equitable and sustainable.

PREPARING FOR THE CONVERSATION:

You may wish to watch the panel discussion on Social Justice and encourage your participants to do so too. It can be found here <https://www.onthetablecola.org/table-talk-social-justice-in-the-midlands/>.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Set some guidelines.

Ask every participant to commit to creating a brave space for this conversation to take place. Four things to remember:

- Be respectful – in our language and conversation, we should be respectful to others even if we do not agree.
- Listen and learn from one another.
- Try to keep an open mind.
- The conversation itself matters – we don't have to solve challenges right now, today.

HAVING THE CONVERSATION:

Pose questions to spark discussion. Pose questions to spark discussion. Invite your participants to consider the following and share their responses, experiences and ideas. Remember, you do not need to ask all of these questions. We recommend selecting 3-5 key questions and letting the conversation flow.

1. What brought you to the table?
2. In what ways have you experienced or witnessed social injustice - institutional, structural, individual or otherwise? How did you respond to that experience?
3. A year following the mass coverage of worldwide protests, what would you say is the current landscape of social justice issues in the Midlands?
4. What would you like to see happen in your community and/or the Midlands to make our communities more a. livable, b. equitable, and c. just?
5. What opportunities and/or resources exist in the Midlands to increase equity and justice in our communities? What resources do you believe are needed?

6. Who not at this table is critical to making positive changes within our community? How can we connect with them to create change?
7. What will you commit to do in the next 3-6 months to increase inclusion and equity in your community or in the Midlands?

AFTER YOUR CONVERSATION:

Wrapping up your event.

Thank your participants for sharing their thoughts and experiences, and for being part of this important conversation. When we listen and learn from one another, powerful things can happen.

Encourage guests to:

- Contribute to the conversation online by posting photos, ideas and experiences on social media using #OnTheTableCola.
- Attend upcoming Table Talks or check out past ones.
- Consider applying for a Beyond the Table mini-grant in October 2021. Central Carolina Community Foundation is awarding grants up to \$2,000 each for ideas that emerged from conversations. Visit www.OnTheTableCola.org to learn more.