

**On The Table Macon Participants:  
 Engaged and Motivated to Bring Positive Change**

2018 *On The Table Macon* participants who completed the post-conversation survey are optimistic about what the future holds, have clear ideas of areas in need of focus, are highly engaged in their community, and are motivated to get involved in efforts to make their community a better place to live.

**A positive outlook on their community overall, but room for improvement in some areas:** 2018 *On The Table Macon* survey participants express a strong sense of optimism about the direction of their community and what the future holds, but they have more mixed views on a sense of unity and equal opportunities for all.

- ✓ They are much more hopeful (66%) than worried (34%) about what the future holds for their community.
- ✓ 69% say the people who make up their community have shared goals and priorities.
- ✓ Overall, 68% think their community is changing for the better.
- ✓ Just over half (52%) of *On The Table Macon* participants think their community is more united, while 48% think it is more divided. They also have mixed views on whether their community provides equal opportunities for all; a 53% majority feel it does, 47% think it does not.

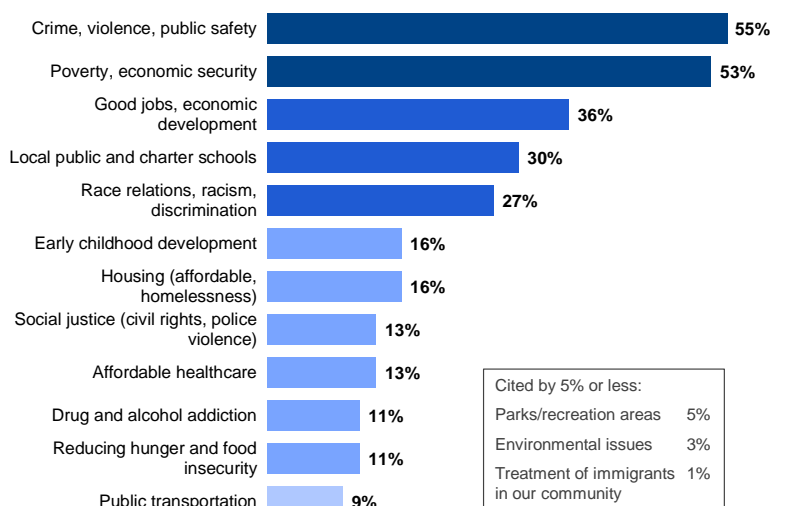
**Participation in *On The Table Macon*.** The conversations facilitated connections, better understanding of issues, and a motivation to get involved.

- ✓ 65% of participants say they spoke with at least one person that they did not already know.
- ✓ 65% say the conversations helped them better understand how they can take action to help address issues and challenges in their community.
- ✓ 91% say they are likely to take specific actions regarding issues they discussed at their *On The Table Macon* conversation.

**Priorities for improving Macon-Bibb and catalysts of change.** Crime/public safety and poverty/economic security are participants’ top priorities for the community to address, and they view nonprofits and faith communities as the strongest agents of change.

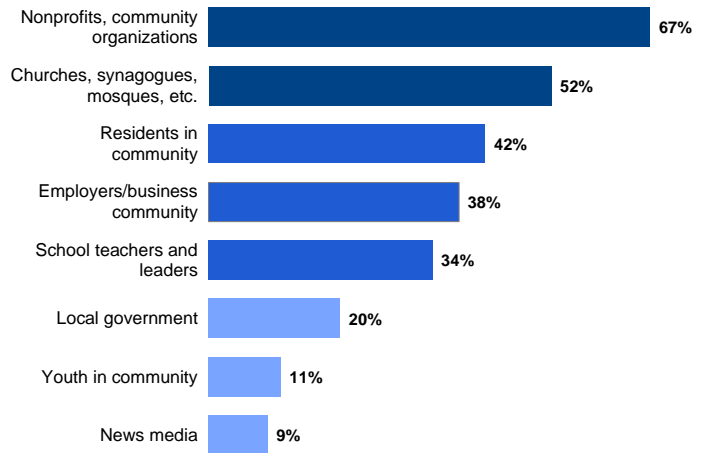
- ✓ When asked to identify the three most important issues for their community to address: crime, violence, and public safety (55%) and poverty and economic security (53%) rank as the most pressing. Second-tier issue priorities include good jobs and economic development (36%), local schools (30%), and race relations, racism, and discrimination (27%).

**THREE most important issues for my community to address:**



- ✓ When asked about specific efforts that could be the focus of community improvement efforts in Macon-Bibb, participants rank two in the top tier: offering more workforce training and financial education for unemployed and low-income citizens (48%) and improving the fiscal stability of Macon-Bibb County government (47%). Other efforts that they rank in the second tier include improving race relations (30%), reducing the number of vacant, neglected properties (29%), and attracting outside investment (27%).
- ✓ Two in three (67%) participants rank nonprofits and community organizations as among those having the greatest impact on making their community a better place to live, and half (52%) feel that way about churches, synagogues, mosques, and other faith communities. Additionally, 42% identify residents as having the greatest impact.

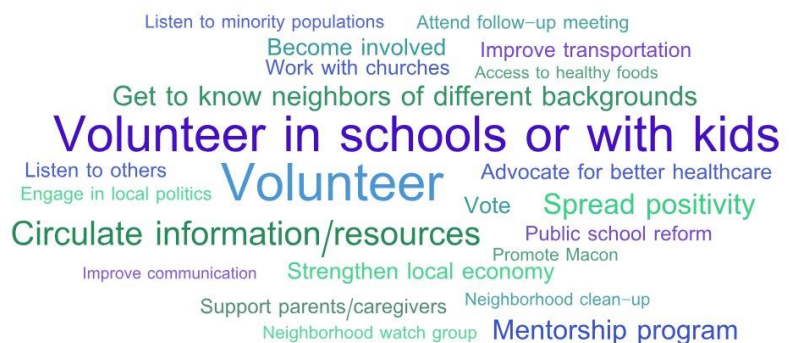
**TWO or THREE groups that have the greatest impact on making my community a better place to live:**



**Beyond The Table—engaged, optimistic they can have an impact, and focused on ensuring a strong future for youth.** The overwhelming majority of *On The Table Macon* participants are involved in their community and believe they can improve it, and they are most motivated by their desire to shape the community for today’s youth and future generations.

- ✓ 79% are involved in community and neighborhood activities.
- ✓ 85% think they can have an impact in making their community a better place to live.
- ✓ The greatest motivator for their involvement in the community is to make it strong for youth and future generations (56%).
- ✓ When it comes to ways to get involved, they are most interested in volunteering and connecting with others across Macon-Bibb County. And these are the kinds of things they are most likely to volunteer that they will do as a result of their participation in *On The Table Macon*.

**Volunteered actions will take as a result of participation in *On The Table* conversation**



*On October 17, 2018, the Community Foundation of Central Georgia hosted its 2018 On The Table Macon conversations with generous support from the Knight Foundation. The Community Foundation of Central Georgia estimates that 5,000 adults participated in the conversations. This memo presents key findings among 782 adults who participated in On The Table Macon conversations and completed a post-conversation survey. The survey was conducted online by Hart Research Associates and Public Opinion Strategies. For more information, visit [onthetablemacon.com](http://onthetablemacon.com).*