

Get involved with Medford Conversations!



What is Medford Conversations?

Medford Conversations is a volunteer organization that arranges small discussion circles guided by trained facilitators on important issues impacting our community. Every voice enriches the conversation and we seek to bring together individuals with varied backgrounds, perspectives, and life experiences to share their stories and learn from one another as we engage in our common life as members of the Medford community. Planning is currently underway for our next conversation series, which is tentatively scheduled to kickoff in March of 2019.

What do you talk about?

We have been gathering feedback from the community for the past year on topics of interest for our next conversation series and we hope to finalize a topic by the end of this summer (2018). Our goal is to select a topic that is meaningful and relevant to the community of Medford and that also allows people to share their personal stories and experiences.

Past topics have included *Who Belongs? Conversations about Race and Ethnicity in Medford and Beyond* and *At What Cost? The Price of Living in Medford: Conversations about Housing, Transportation, and other Basic Needs*.

Why volunteer with Medford Conversations?

- Meet new people and make new friends
- Put your skills to work for a good cause
- Get to know the community better
- Learn new skills in leadership, event planning, communications, facilitation, and more
- Engage in meaningful work to make Medford a better place to live for all
- Be an active part of our democracy
- Catalyze action

How can I get involved?

- Volunteer for one of our committees (see next page for details) by filling out this form <http://bit.ly/MedfordConvosVolunteer>
- Join our mailing list by visiting our website: <http://medfordconversations.org/>
- Email medfordconvos@gmail.com for more information

Committee Descriptions

Committee	Description
Steering Committee	Guides all aspects of planning and organizing from the big picture and vision setting to the nitty gritty of event planning. Meets monthly May-December and more frequently January-March.
Expanded Steering Committee	Provides input and support to the planning and organizing work of the Steering Committee, but only meets three times annually. Great option for partner organizations and individuals with limited time.
Facilitation & Curriculum	(1) Recruits and trains volunteer facilitators to use the Everyday Democracy model of small group facilitation; (2) Designs the curriculum for training facilitators and for the conversation series; (3) Coordinates facilitation of the conversation series.
Outreach & Engagement	Develops strong relationships throughout the Medford community to engage individuals and organizations with Medford Conversations as participants, facilitators, partners, promoters, and/or volunteers with a goal of representing the rich diversity that exists within our community.
Community Partnerships	Invites and initiates collaboration with partner organizations to help shape our work through engagement on our Expanded Steering Committee, participation in our conversations, providing in-kind support, and providing public support for the vision of Medford Conversations.
Youth Engagement	Engages the young people of our community in the work of Medford Conversations. Ensures youth have a meaningful voice in all aspects of the project from leadership and planning, to facilitation, to participation in our conversations. This committee will ideally be led by young people.
Communications	Gets the word out about the Medford Conversations to the general public. This work includes increasing publicity via newspapers, social media, and the Medford Conversations website as well as developing and maintaining marketing materials.
Events & Logistics	Coordinates the behind-the-scenes logistics for Opening and Closing Events, Facilitation Trainings, and Conversation Circles. Takes care of the details of event planning (e.g., securing space, procuring food and supplies, printing materials, etc.).
Fundraising & Finance	Researches and secures funding opportunities (e.g., grants, donations, etc.) and takes care of reporting to funders. Coordinates the Medford Conversations budget.
Evaluation	Gathers feedback on Medford Conversations via surveys and other methods and shares results with committees to help improve our programming.
Research	Provides background, research, and assistance to Medford Conversations in understanding the community's character, needs, and culture in order to have the most productive and transformative conversation series possible.

Sign up to volunteer at <http://bit.ly/MedfordConvosVolunteer>

Phone: 781-957-1070

Email: medfordconvos@gmail.com

Website: MedfordConversations.org

Facebook: fb.me/MedfordConversations

Twitter: @medfordconvos

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