



What We Learned

On the Table 2017

Using data from On The Table 2017 conversations, SVCF worked with our partners to identify the top recommendations for how **government, community organizations, individuals and philanthropic institutions** can work together to meet the needs of community members and address challenges associated with affordable housing and homelessness in the region. They are:

1. **Provide guidance about specific actions that individuals can take.**
2. **Engage in community organizing efforts, and develop tools and resources to support those efforts.**
3. **Develop bridges with tech company employees and create opportunities for conversations with employees in other sectors.**
4. **Create and/or identify resources with information about laws, rules and regulations related to affordable housing, renting and homelessness.**
5. **Create and/or identify solutions and best practices to address our housing challenges.**
6. **Provide educational materials that link housing to related issues, like transportation, jobs and public education.**

On the Table participants and community partners also identified three ways in which we – as Bay Area residents – can build a healthy, equitable, vibrant, sustainable and affordable future for all:

Individual Action

Relationships matter. Building relationships among community members, neighbors and colleagues, especially across difference, leads to greater empathy and shared understanding about what it means to be a Bay Area resident.

Group Action

Organizing matters. Formal or informal, community organizing gathers and concentrates power to fight for the future we all want.

Civic Action

Institutions matter. Voting, attending public meetings, getting involved in city planning processes, understanding permitting processes and directly interacting with civic institutions gives residents direct access to decision-making power.

Conversation Questions

These conversation questions reflect the recommendations of community members and partner organizations. They are designed to bring us from reflection in 2017 to action in 2018.

1. What are you willing to do to build understanding among people who think differently about our region's housing challenges?
2. What actions can we take, as a community, to ensure that we all have access to housing we can afford?
3. In addition to voting, what can we do to ensure that all voices are included in shaping our region's housing decisions?
4. What information and/or resources do you and your community need to ensure the success of the solutions you have talked about today? How can different stakeholders, such as businesses, government, philanthropy, community partners, and media best meet these needs?

Action List

1. Vote on housing issues in the November 2018 election

Bay Area voters will see several state-wide and local initiatives on their ballot that address housing. State-wide measures include:

- i. **Proposition 1:** If passed, this would authorize the sale of bonds to finance affordable housing and home-purchase assistance for veterans.
- ii. **Proposition 2:** If passed, this would authorize the sale of bonds to build housing that includes mental health services for chronically homeless people.
- iii. **Proposition 10:** If passed, this would give local authorities more freedom to enact rent control policies.

2. Join forces with an already established organization dedicated to addressing housing issues:

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| a. Destination: Home
destinationhomesv.org | f. SV@Home
siliconvalleyathome.org |
| b. Faith in Action
facebook.com/FaithInActionBayArea | g. Unity Care
unitycare.org |
| c. Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County
hlcsmc.org | h. Urban Habitat
urbanhabitat.org |
| d. Housing Trust Silicon Valley
housingtrustsv.org | i. Youth Leadership Institute
yli.org/san-mateo |
| e. People Acting in Community Together
pactsj.org/en/economic-justice | |

3. Host a conversation with family, friends and neighbors in the style of On The Table. Organize them to get involved and be ready to take action beyond On The Table 2018 and the November 2018 elections.

4. What else will you do?
