

# Community Foundations set table to transform Southwest Florida

Chatting with neighbors and friends over a meal or cup of coffee is a time-honored tradition. It's also a great way to move our communities forward. As Southwest Florida emerges from the global COVID-19 pandemic, community conversations are more important than ever.

The Charlotte Community Foundation, Collaboratory, and Collier Community Foundation are partnering to host On the Table SWFL, meaningful, mealtime conversations to drive social impact and strengthen our communities. This collective of community leaders is coming together to convene these conversations as a catalyst for regional collaboration to address issues and opportunities affecting Southwest Florida residents.

## Fast Facts

On one special day, thousands of neighbors, colleagues, friends, and residents will gather to share their stories and generate ideas to create a more sustainable and vibrant Southwest Florida.

**When**

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

**Where**

Small, mealtime conversations held at locations where participants can gather, talk, and brainstorm with a group of 10 to 12 people, such as homes, backyards, at local restaurants, schools, community centers, places of worship, libraries, offices, retail establishments – literally anywhere a host chooses. They can be sit-down, catered, picnic or potluck – completely up to each host.

**Who**

Anyone can host an On the Table SWFL session, and everyone is welcome to join the conversation and have their voices heard.

**How**

Sign up to host or attend a conversation, visit [onthetableswfl.com](http://onthetableswfl.com).



## Community Conversations. Regional Impact.

The inaugural On The Table SWFL initiative, produced by the Collaboratory in October 2019, welcomed more than 1,500 participants. In 2022, the Collaboratory is partnering with Collier Community Foundation and Charlotte Community Foundation.

In conjunction with Florida Gulf Coast University, the foundation partners will capture conversation themes and identify region-wide social priorities in an impact report that will be shared broadly. As a follow-up to On the Table SWFL, the foundations pledge to work together on issues identified through the conversations to create a more sustainable and vibrant Southwest Florida.



# About On The Table

Starting in 2014 in Chicago, On the Table is an award-winning model that has engaged over 100,000 residents in more than 35 communities across North America, strengthening their connections to each other and bolstering the vitality of their communities. It provides a unique opportunity for your outlet to more deeply understand the issues and topics of greatest concern to community residents.

## About The Foundation Partners

### Charlotte Community Foundation

As the Center for Philanthropy in Charlotte County, the Foundation focuses exclusively on the needs of Charlotte County. Providing more than \$1.2 million dollars through grant making in 2021 alone, the Foundation provides personalized donor services to assist individuals in establishing tax advantageous charitable funds, which provide distributions, grants and other resources to support nonprofits in Charlotte County. The Foundation's mission is "Connecting people who care with causes that matter." For more information or for questions about the Charlotte Community Foundation, please go to [charlottecf.org](http://charlottecf.org) or call 941-637-0077.

### Collaboratory

Collaboratory is committed to coordinating the solving of all of Southwest Florida's social problems on an 18-year deadline including homelessness, poverty, mental illness, racism, illiteracy and more. We plan to do this with the entire community working together including people of all ages, colors, abilities, beliefs, and imaginations across all five counties.

Collaboratory was founded in 1976 as the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. It has made over 96 million in grants since then and is home to more than 650 philanthropic funds. To learn more and get involved, call 239-274-5900 or visit [collaboratory.org](http://collaboratory.org).

### Collier Community Foundation

The Community Foundation of Collier County, DBA Collier Community Foundation™, is a tax-exempt, public, charitable organization established in 1985 to increase and focus on local private philanthropy. Today, the Collier Community Foundation manages more than 850 funds, works with hundreds of nonprofits, holds \$247.4 million in assets, and has granted over \$268 million to nonprofit organizations, community programs, and scholarships, \$43.1 million in FY2022. The Collier Community Foundation is one of Florida's fastest-growing community foundations. Informed giving. Powerful results.™ Learn more at [colliercf.org](http://colliercf.org) or call 239-649-5000.

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