

**Foundation For** 

**The Carolinas** 

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## Foundation For the Carolinas recognizes call for action with second year of Knight Foundation initiative, On The Table

CHARLOTTE – Citing the success of its inaugural year, Foundation For The Carolinas announced the return of On The Table CLT on Oct. 24. This second year of mealtime conversations are made possible through generous support from the <u>John S. and James L. Knight Foundation</u> and is a part of a national initiative to bring people together in conversation around issues that matter most to participants, neighborhoods and communities.

On the Table is designed to expand community engagement through direct invitation from community member to friends, neighbors and networks, yielding more than 5,000 participants in civic dialogue. This year, the anticipated gatherings will be informed by the Leading On Opportunity initiative and will reach 25 percent more individual participants with focused measurable outcomes.

"On the Table CLT offers an exciting opportunity to connect deeply across our Carolina footprint, promoting trust, encouraging humility and openness to differing opinions, and extending beyond our traditional partnerships for meaningful engagement," said Brian Collier, FFTC Executive Vice President. Social capital, highlighted as a cross-cutting factor for community success in the Leading On Opportunity report, served as the organizing principle last year. "This year, Foundation For The Carolinas seeks to create dynamic community change by examining individual accountability in Charlotte."

Participants were asked to rate the 2017 experience, and survey results revealed affordable housing, education, gentrification and segregation as the leading concerns of local residents. The impact report, in its entirety can be viewed at: www.onthetableclt.org.

Foundation For The Carolinas is one of 10 community foundations across the U.S. participating in On the Table following a successful pilot funded by Knight Foundation in 2017. On the Table replicates an annual civic engagement initiative of the same name developed by the Chicago Community Trust in 2014.

For more information or to sign up to participate as a host on Oct. 24, please email: Onthetableclt@fftc.org.

## **About Foundation For The Carolinas**

Celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> year, Foundation For The Carolinas is the sixth-largest nonprofit community foundation in the country, serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of \$2.5 billion, FFTC's mission is to inspire philanthropy and empower individuals to create a better community. Visit <a href="https://www.fftc.org">www.fftc.org</a>.

## **About Knight Foundation**

Knight Foundation is a national foundation with strong local roots. We invest in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. Our goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which we believe are essential for a healthy democracy

## **Media Contact:**