



Community Roundtable Listening Sessions: Law Enforcement and the Community

MovementForward, Inc., the One Congregation One Precinct (OneCOP) initiative, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), and the National Sheriffs' Association are all partnered in an initiative to bridge communication gaps between community members and law enforcement.

As we begin this national collaborative project, funded by a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, our priority is listening intently to the needs of the local communities that we plan to partner with. Communal wisdom is critical to this project's success. The intent of these roundtable discussions is to guide the overall effort in a direction that can create healing between communities and law enforcement.

The team will be employing a two-pronged approach over the span of an 18-month period: community engagement and other forms of media. First, we will be gathering data through phone surveys and roundtable discussions with community leaders.

The roundtable discussions will support our quantitative findings with qualitative insights to establish a baseline for understanding what community members want to see from police, know and/or believe about law enforcement, and to better understand what constitutes a good relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

We plan to use the information gathered here, and supported by our survey quantitative data, in our campaign to help identify and address any gaps (a) between what community members believe law enforcement does and what they actually do, and (b) between what community members and law enforcement believe makes a good relationship.

TARGET AUDIENCE/POPULATION:

Community Leadership Roundtables will convene the leaders of specific community groups with a mix of large groups with prominent voices and smaller groups that may not be as visible, and that represent niche or underrepresented groups. Each roundtable in each of city, will have a maximum of fifteen (15) participants, and will be held in the city of Athens, GA on Tuesday, April 30, 2019; the city of Indianapolis, IN on Thursday, May 2, 2019; and the city of Portland, OR on Friday, June 27, 2019.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Roundtables will be up to 1.5 hours long with a maximum of 15 participants – one representative per community group.
- An objective, non-law enforcement moderator, and communications expert, Juli Branson, will moderate the discussions. She will open with introductions, and then ask basic, prepared questions. The moderator is trained in identifying trends and asking more in-depth questions to bring out details. She also is skilled at tracking that has spoken and making sure that everyone has a chance to contribute, as well as being adept at addressing conflicts that may arise in a conversation.
- Three cities – Athens, GA, Indianapolis, IN and Portland, OR – will each have at least one roundtable discussion. They will meet at the beginning of the project to help identify the current baseline relationship.



ROUNDTABLE TIMELINE/LOCATIONS:

- **TUES., APRIL 30th -** Athens, GA, roundtable
5:30pm - 7:00pm and 7:30pm – 9:00pm
Hill Chapel Baptist Church, 1692 W. Hancock Avenue, Athens, GA 30606
- **THURS., MAY 2nd -** Indianapolis, IN, roundtable
5:30pm - 7:00pm and 7:30pm – 9:00pm
The Platform/LISC, 202 East Market Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204
- **FRI., June 28th -** Portland, OR, roundtable
5:30pm - 7:00pm
Kaiser Permanente Building, 500 NE Multnomah St., Portland, OR 97232