

The Longest Table

OVERVIEW

Hosted by: Howard County Library System (Choose Civility) and Howard County Government

(#OneHoward)

Date: Thursday, June 22, 2017

Time: approx. 6 - 10 pm

Place: Howard Community College parking lot adjacent to Little Patuxent Parkway (pending)

Rain date/venue: Howard Community College (pending)
Cost: TBD (may be \$10 - \$15 per person)

This event, the first of its kind in our community, will bring together a diverse group of residents to share a meal and engage in meaningful conversation about moving the community forward.

In Howard County, we take pride in and celebrate our diversity. Our wide spectrum of personal experiences gives us a glimpse into one another's lives. The Longest Table will provide a setting for us to share those experiences and gain a better understanding of how we can find common ground and move our community forward together.

Many rewarding relationships have been made over meals. The Longest Table is an event that invites our community to sit down and share good food and great ideas. This will be a chance to exchange stories about life in Howard County, both where we have been and where we are going. The intent is to enable people make new connections, and engage in conversation about diverse perspectives and common goals.

Goals

- Implement a multimedia outreach campaign that will draw a diverse crowd of 500 residents from across the county
- Building on the success of the event, keep the conversations going by enlisting people to host block parties over the next 6 months
- Generate at least three media stories about the event and its purpose

Target Audience

- Howard County residents, representing geographic and demographic diversity
- Community leaders to be celebrity servers
- Selected members of the community to facilitate conversations

Budget

To cover costs (e.g., food, beverages, rentals, printing, insurance), estimated budget is \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Volunteers

To promote, set up, take down, and serve the meal, we estimate needing approximately 100 volunteers.

Planning Partners

- Downtown Columbia Arts and Culture Commission
- Downtown Columbia Partnership
- Howard Community College (pending)
- Howard County Chamber of Commerce
- Howard County Economic Development Authority
- Howard County Government (#OneHoward)
- Howard County Library System (Choose Civility)
- Howard Hughes Corporation
- Leadership Howard County

Promotional Partners

- Columbia Association
- Howard Community College (pending)
- Howard County Tourism

Potential Funding Partners (Cash, In-Kind)

- Columbia Association
- Community Foundation of Howard County
- Downtown Columbia Arts and Culture Commission
- Downtown Columbia Partnership
- Friends of Howard County Library System confirmed
- The Horizon Foundation
- Howard Community College
- Howard Hughes Corporation