



Findlay • Hancock County

**The Community
Foundation**

Bridging Resources. Granting Opportunity.

Community Conversations Report

2022-23

INTRODUCTION

In the summer and fall of 2022, we spoke to 1,001 people around Hancock County about the community we call home. We asked what they appreciated, what could be improved and how they would improve it if funding wasn't a factor.

Community Conversations 2022 was a follow-up to the 2017 series of conversations. One goal was to ensure our grantmaking remained aligned with the priorities of residents. But also to build on those priorities, and gather concrete ideas from those living, working, learning and playing here. People attending conversations gathered in small groups with trained facilitators and note-takers. Groups were asked the same set of questions to ensure the highest possible qualitative data.

In 104 conversations we heard from 1,001 people. This resulted in 2,429 data points. Those who gave their time represented many walks of life, as well as a proportional sampling based on census data.

We hope the information on the following pages is enlightening and encouraging. While the challenges we must rise to are looming, the fact is more than 1,000 people cared enough to give their time to discuss them. This spirit of community shows us that there is a sense of togetherness and momentum around many of these issues.

There are limitations to any listening efforts. The data in this report represents a snapshot in time. While the results closely mirror community demographic data from the Census, there are a few cases where certain demographic groups were slightly over-sampled or under-sampled. For example, youth were intentionally over-sampled since they could not be surveyed as part of the last community health assessment due to COVID-19 restrictions. The 25-34 age group was slightly under-sampled, specifically with men and Hispanic men. Overall, our samplings closely mirrored the 2020 Census data.

PRIORITIES

The priorities listed below are the areas you said the Foundation should focus on moving forward.

Data was collected from several community studies to develop these priorities. Those studies include the Foundation’s 2022 Community Conversations, 2022 Community Health Improvement Plan, 2021 Hancock County Health Equity Report, Cultural Humility and Health Equity Delegation Strategic Plan, Findlay Forward Plan, and conversations with Hancock County nonprofits.

Tier I

Housing
Mental Health/Harmful Substance Use
Safety
Transportation
Workforce/Financial Stability

Tier II

Childcare
Community Activities
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
Education
Food Security *
Health/Health Equity *
Youth Activities and Services *

* new to the list since the 2017 conversations.



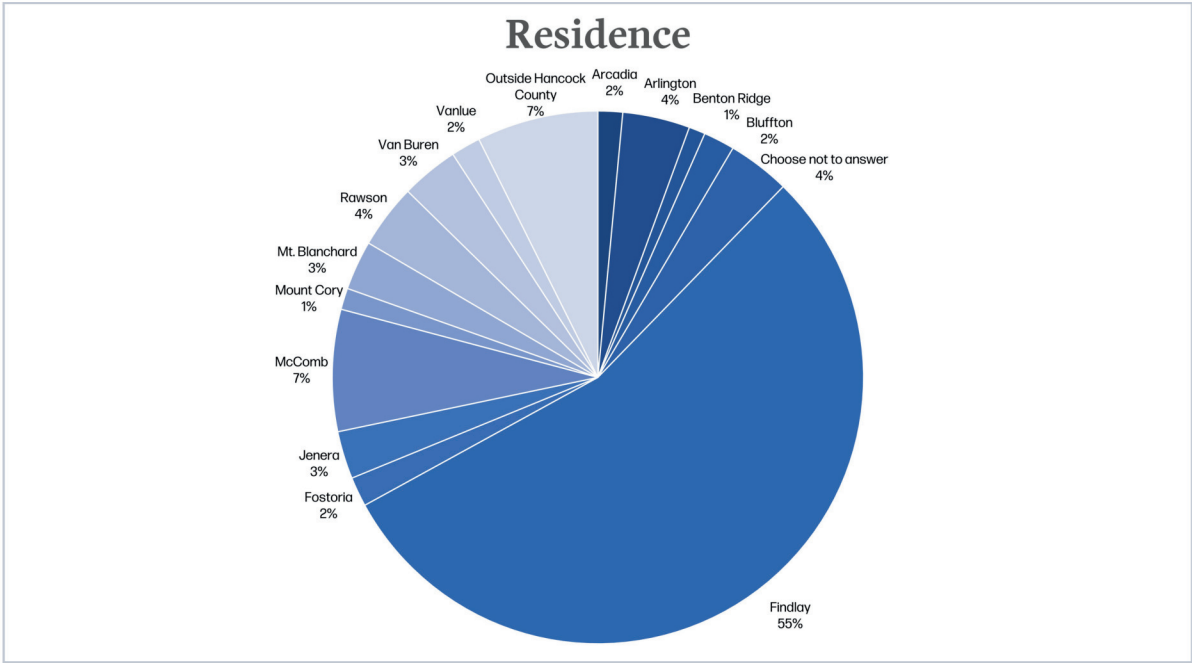
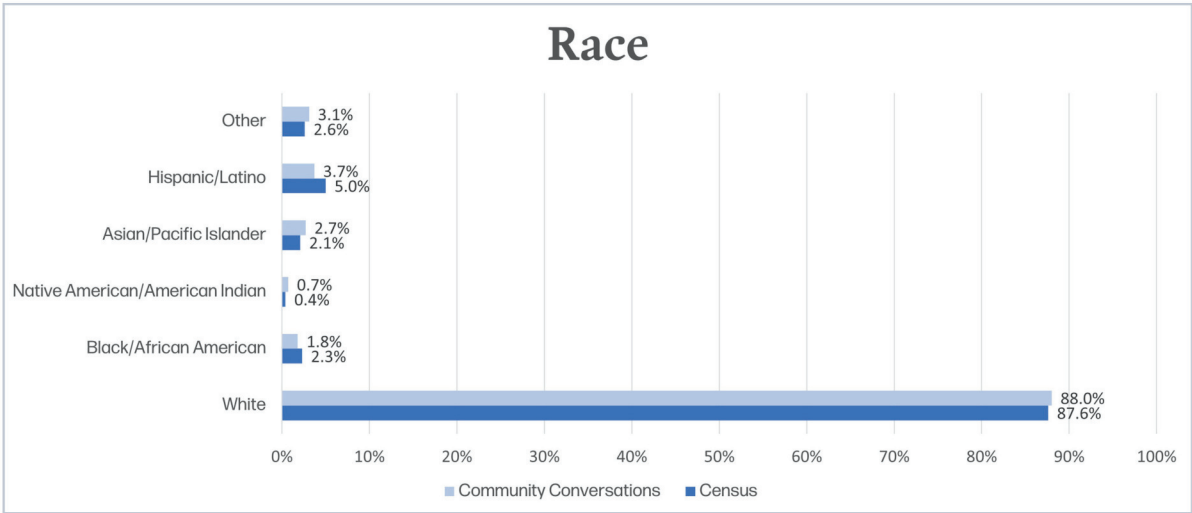
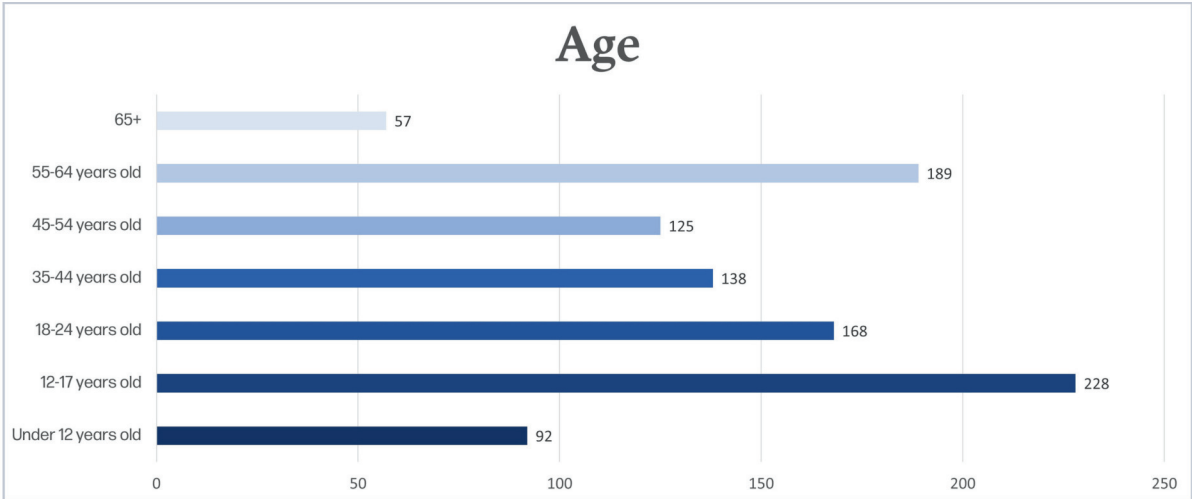
PRIORITIES

One of the questions asked of participants was what priorities should be added to our list since the 2017 conversations. In the word cloud below are the responses. The larger the text, the more frequent the response.



DEMOGRAPHICS

A look at some of the characteristics that made up participants of Community Conversations.



NEXT STEPS

Your Community Foundation is committed to accomplishing the following as a result of your investment of time in conversations.



Grantmaking

- Allocate a minimum of \$1 million in Community's Endowment grant funds to support priority areas annually.

Advocacy

- Leverage additional local, state and federal dollars for priority areas.
- Educate local, state and federal decision-makers on priority area needs.



Leadership

- Share data with coalition leaders.
- Support the work of coalitions addressing priority areas with systems change solutions, including capacity building.

We'll use your feedback regularly in conversations with local leaders, partner organizations and more. The data we used will inform our planning and grantmaking.

YOUR TIME IS AN INVESTMENT IN OUR FUTURE.

The work accomplished in Community Conversations 2022 is critical for so many organizations in Hancock County. We must first thank the generous donors who make listening efforts and coalition work around the priority areas possible. These issues are not isolated, and it takes all of us working together, nonprofits, government, private citizens and businesses, to make change.

More than \$5 million has been invested in community priorities since Community Conversation 2017. The Foundation also conducted a Community Mental Health campaign, created the Fun for All series of free community events, and much more. We can't wait to see what your feedback will empower us to take on next.

There is power in coming together to identify community priorities. Your feedback will guide not only the Foundation's grantmaking, but will be shared with community partners, leadership, and available to the community at large.

All of this is made possible by you, every person who shared their opinion and gave the Foundation their time helps us make a meaningful investment in the future of Hancock County. My sincerest thanks for your time.



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Dr. Brian P. Treece
President & CEO

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We'd like to thank everyone who played a part in helping us reach as many people as possible in our community. We could not have done this important work without each and every one of you!

50+ venues around the community that hosted conversations.

Community organizers: Lauren Etler, April Holland, Joyce Jackson, Kathy McGrain, Jackie Porcello, Judy Pusateri, Nicki Smith.

50+ volunteers who served as conversation facilitators and note-takers.

Matt White, University of Findlay Data Analytics Intern.

Each and every person who participated in a conversation!

We thank you for your continued support of The Community Foundation and this project!

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