

Golden Community Conversations

What is a “Community Conversation”?

A “Community Conversation” is a need-based gathering that can be called within a community to directly discuss a particular concern that is recognized by a variety of people.

Who is involved?

Any trusted group can host a “Community Conversation”. In Golden, the Together Church of Golden is the host. Attendees typically include representatives from different segments of the community, including local service clubs, the faith community, local, county and state government, police and fire departments, the schools, various community groups, non-profits, the business community, youth-focused organizations and interested residents.

What is the purpose?

To gather with people from different segments of the community for focused conversation in order to more effectively and efficiently connect for the well-being of the Golden community.

What is the process?

Information about the concern is presented by one or more community members. Then questions that relate to the need are shared with the group as a whole, which is the basis of the conversation that follows. Discussion first takes place in small groups of 5-8 people, where each person gets an opportunity to share their perspective, as well as information about resources they or their organization could offer to help address the need. These small group ideas and resources are then brought back and shared in the larger group.

A small group of interested individuals is commissioned to take the ideas and resources and begin creating action points. Follow-up meetings are held by this group until the concern is addressed and/or a sustainable response or process is put in place. This might lead to holding another “Community Conversation” to get further input about direction from the larger group, or just reporting back to the attendees on progress made and asking for feedback. Either way, some form of ongoing communication is essential.

Attendees at the initial Golden Community Conversations decided the best venue for this, in addition to communicating via email, would be a web-based resource. As a result, www.goldencares3c.org was developed and is maintained by the Together Church of Golden. It is used by individuals and groups in Golden as a way to connect with others, to facilitate interaction and the building of partnerships that will strengthen our community, and to provide information that encourages participation in and support of a wide variety of community efforts.