

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

What is a community conversation?

A community conversation is an event using an abridged version of the World Café method, known internationally as an easy-to-use format for creating open conversations around questions of importance to a specific topic.

How does a community conversation work?

Up to 30 community members are brought together to talk in a 2 hour facilitated workshop about a topic specifically linked to a research topic and attendees are often involved in a priority setting activity. Specific questions relevant to the subject matter are discussed in an open and friendly environment. All comments are written on butcher's paper and used to develop a report from the conversation.

What are the costs involved with a community conversation?

We advocate for honorarium payments for consumer and community members attendance at community conversations at a flat rate of \$70 (*please refer to our honorarium payment guidelines*). We also recommend providing catering, and you will also need to consider costs such as venue hire and stationery (butcher's paper, markers etc.).

Community conversation in practice

Researchers at Curtin University held a community conversation to hear the community's ideas on how to improve road safety in WA. The event was attended by 24 community members. Attendees were seated in groups at tables, and were guided through three questions: What are the issues concerning road safety; How do we tackle the road safety issues identified; Which community members should be involved and how? The key themes that came out of the conversation were: crash prevention through education, urban planning, cyclist and motorcyclist safety, new technology, country roads. The researchers were then able to use this information to inform a number of grant applications in order to undertake research in the area of road safety.

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