



The Poor People's Campaign

Exploring economic inequality then and now.

HOST GUIDE

PRESENTED BY:



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Hands On Atlanta has partnered with Civic Dinners to scale Sunday Suppers across Atlanta.

CIVIC DINNERS FORMAT:



6-10 DIVERSE GUESTS



3 BIG QUESTIONS



EQUAL TIME TO SHARE



ONE VOICE AT A TIME

Thank you for hosting a Hands On Atlanta Sunday Supper on economic inequality.

YOUR ROLE AS HOST

As a host, your main role is setting a location for friends, neighbors, colleagues and possibly strangers to gather together over food and follow our simple conversation guide created for Sunday Supper.

Here are just a few things to keep in mind as a host:

- Keep track of your dinner on cividdinners.com/HOA-sundaysupper
- Dinners can be in homes or restaurants, as long as it is quiet.
- Everyone pays for their own meal or brings a dish if it is potluck, so there is no cost burden on the host.
- The Host Guide includes all prompts and questions that guide the conversation so you can sit back, relax and listen.
- Sunday Suppers are designed to be inclusive, so try to invite diverse voices to the table to create a robust conversation.
- Remember to post photos and share your experience on social media tagging @HandsOnAtlanta @CivicDinners and #MLKATL50
- After the dinner, Civic Dinners will follow up with guests with a survey link to share their reflections, ideas and feedback.
- Need some help? Email support@cividdinners.com



YOUR ROLE AS A HOST

Once you have posted your Sunday Supper on CivicDinners.com and created a dinner page on cividdinners.com/HOA-sundaysupper, here's what to do next. Even if you're not using the Civic Dinners platform to organize your supper, you can still follow these steps for a successful Sunday Supper conversation.



INVITE 6-10 GUESTS

Once you have posted your Sunday Supper you can start inviting guests such as neighbors, friends, family, colleagues using your unique dinner page link. All guests should register through your page on Cividdinners.com. This way, Hands On Atlanta can follow-up with all attendees with a survey and collect feedback and ideas from the dinner.



PRINT OUT THE HOST GUIDE

Before your Sunday Supper, be sure to read through the entire Host Guide and follow instructions carefully. We recommend printing the host guide that includes the welcome, host tips and conversation guide.



MAKE SURE EVERYONE FEELS HEARD

Once all guests have arrived, read out loud the welcome and house rules based on the Civic Dinners model, encouraging one voice at a time with equal time to share. The main purpose of our structure is to ensure that everyone gets to share and that no one voice (or two) dominate the conversation. This helps to ensure that every voice matters equally and that all feel heard. Group discussion is inevitable given the passion around the table. The host is encouraged to simply redirect the conversation if it goes off topic or if it stays on the same question for too long.



SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Remember to post a photo of the dinner, preferably around the dinner table, and share on social media tagging [#MLKATL50](https://twitter.com/MLKATL50), [@handsonatl](https://twitter.com/handsonatl) and [@CivicDinners](https://twitter.com/CivicDinners).



TAKE ACTION

Immediately following the dinner, an email will be sent to all guests and hosts with a menu of actions you can take including volunteer opportunities, a feedback survey and more. A host feedback survey will be sent to you and a separate survey will be sent to your guests. We would greatly appreciate your feedback from your experience hosting a Sunday Supper, and all data collected will be shared with Hands On Atlanta.

HANDS ON ATL

SUNDAY SUPPER



The Poor People's Campaign

SUNDAY SUPPER GUIDE

Welcome to the Hands On Atlanta Sunday Supper.

A Sunday Supper conversation around economic inequality then and now.

The 2018 Hands On Atlanta Sunday Supper, presented by The Coca-Cola Company, will examine the Poor People's Campaign, which was the focus of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the final years of his life. The Poor People's Campaign demanded economic equality, particularly through jobs and housing, and considered it a human (vs. civil) right.

There are many contemporary parallels to the issues at the heart of the Poor People's Campaign. In Atlanta, concerns about affordable housing and extreme income inequality were at the forefront of the mayoral debates. The rights of workers, quality public education and the affordability of quality health care dominate the national narrative.

The goal of each of these Sunday Supper conversations is take key learnings from the successes and failures of the Poor People's Campaign and leverage this knowledge to envision solutions for today's critical issues with a diverse, committed group of citizens from various sectors of Atlanta.

Thank you for joining us at the table for this important conversation.

HOW IT WORKS



6-10 DIVERSE GUESTS



3 BIG QUESTIONS



EQUAL TIME TO SHARE



ONE VOICE AT A TIME

GROUND RULES

BE CURIOUS AND OPEN TO LEARNING.

Conversation is as much about listening as it is about talking. Listen and be open to hearing all points of view.

SHOW RESPECT AND SUSPEND JUDGMENT.

Setting judgments aside opens you up to learning from others and makes them feel respected and appreciated.

FIND COMMON GROUND AND APPRECIATE DIFFERENCES.

Look for a common ground you can agree on and appreciate the differences in the beliefs and opinions of others.

BE AUTHENTIC AND WELCOME THAT FROM OTHERS.

Speak authentically from your personal experience. Personal stories open our hearts.

BE PURPOSEFUL.

Notice if what you are conveying is or is not pertinent to the topic at hand.

OWN AND GUIDE THE CONVERSATION.

Be proactive in getting yourself and others back on track if needed.



The Poor People's Campaign



DINNER GUIDE *Intended for dinner groups of 6-10 people and takes 2 hours to complete*

5 min **Introductions**

Starting with the person whose birthday is soonest.

Say your name, where you grew up, and what financial security means to you.

30 seconds per person

20 min QUESTION 1:

PERSONAL CONNECTION

The person who lives farthest away, please start with reading this story and answering the first question.

4-6 minutes per person

Marcus Brown was offered a job during the summer of 2017 after a long search, and was looking forward to catching up on past-due bills. On his third day at work, he was told he had to be let go because a background check listed a felony charge from 1989.

In 2016, Stacey Ross, a working mother of four, left her full-time job as a medical coding specialist paying \$14 an hour for a more flexible position that would allow her to juggle multiple school pickups. She took a pay cut to \$8 per hour and, while she expected to work 20 hours a week, business was slow and her shifts were often cut. Some months she did not even work the anticipated 20 hours total, and her family has struggled to make ends meet.

Marcus and Stacey are far from alone. Despite Georgia's booming economy, 1.7 million working adults—one out of every three—are economically insecure, defined as living below 200 percent of the federal poverty line, or about \$41,000 for a family of three. While economic insecurity is a widespread challenge for an increasing number of Georgians of all races and ethnicities, workers of color and women are disproportionately economically insecure.

Have you ever experienced financial insecurity? And if so, what are some causes of financial insecurity and how did you cope?

40 min QUESTION #2:

SHARED VALUES & CHALLENGES

MAIN COURSE

The person who answered last, please read aloud and answer question #2.

4-6 minutes per person

Georgia's economically insecure working-age adults are struggling to find good jobs: jobs that pay enough to support a family, offer safe working conditions, and provide meaningful opportunities to move up the economic ladder.

- 4/10 adults are out of the labor force—some have given up on finding work and others are caring for family members, attending school, or have a disability that prevents them from working.
- 1/10 adults is actively looking for work. The remaining half actually have jobs, but those jobs are low-wage, precarious jobs that do not pay enough to ensure economic security.
- Although overall unemployment in Georgia in 2016 was relatively low at 6.0 percent, the unemployment rate for Black Georgians was twice the rate for White Georgians (9.0 percent compared with 4.5 percent).

Can you think of at least one barrier to employment? And what do you think is a cause of racial inequity in employment?



DINNER GUIDE *Continued*

40 min QUESTION 3:

FUTURE-FORWARD

The person who lives farthest away, please start with reading this story and answering the first question.

2-4 minutes per person

Economic inclusion is critical for Georgia's long-term competitiveness and prosperity. The exclusion of many Georgians from the job market negatively affects families and hinders businesses from filling their needs for new talent—needs that are expected to grow.

Georgia's path of unequal growth is not benefitting all workers, and ultimately will undermine the state's competitiveness. It will not be possible to fill the nearly half-million jobs that will be created in the state by 2024 by recruiting workers from elsewhere.

If the state achieved full employment across all racial and gender groups, bringing 384,000 people ages 16 or older into employment, Georgia's economy could be \$12 billion stronger every year, with lower poverty, and higher tax revenues.

What policies, norms or ideas do you have that can help ensure economic inclusion and financial security for all?

5 min **NEXT STEPS**

The host reads the next steps and suggested ways to move into action.

The conversation doesn't have to stop here. All registered guests will receive an email with ways that you can move into action, beyond this conversation.

Give us your feedback

You should have already received a survey via email about tonight's conversation. It's extremely important to Hands On Atlanta that our ideas are captured, so please take a few minutes to complete it. Feel free to fill it out right now even, on your cell phone.

Find Volunteer Opportunities

Find service opportunities in your neighborhood at Hands On Atlanta www.handsonatlanta.org

Advocate

Join the [Prosperity Now Advocacy Center](#) and learn how to contact your Member of Congress to help protect working families.

Read

[What It's Worth: Strengthening the Financial Future of Families, Communities and the Nation](#). Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco & Corporation for Enterprise Development

[Wealth in America: Policies to Support Mobility](#) by Signe-Mary McKernan, Caleb Quakenbush, Caroline Ratcliffe, C. Eugene Steurle

[Toxic Inequality: How America's Wealth Gap Destroys Mobility, Deepens the Racial Divide, & Threatens Our Future](#) by Thomas Shapiro