

Where We've Been • Where We Are • Where We're Going — Together

RJOB Town Halls 2026

World Cafe Table Host Guide



All events will be
6-8 PM

RJOB Town Halls 2026

Jan 26

Feb 12

Feb 19



East County

In person at Grace Bible
Fellowship in Antioch

West County

In person at RYSE in
Richmond

Virtual

Provides a virtual option for
people across the county
that were not able to
attend the inperson

Light refreshments provided (in person)
Interpretation available (all events)

All events will be
6-8 PM

Jan 26

East County

- **Welcome/Presentation +**
Next Steps/ Close: Anthony Randolph & Patrice Guillory (?)
- **World Cafe Open/Close :** Dr. Marya Wright

Breakouts

- **Diversion:** Ayo Lewis & Sonja Shepard
- **Community Engagement:** Ronell Ellis & Marcus Walton
- **Data:** Melvin Willis

Feb 12

West County

- **Welcome/Presentation +**
Next Steps/ Close: Stephanie Thibodeaux Medley + Jeff Landau

- **World Cafe Open/Close :** Dr. Marya Wright

Breakouts

- **Diversion:** ATalia Moore- Ayo Lewis (alt if we don't get systems)
- **Community Engagement:**
- **Data:** Jeff Landau

Feb 19

Virtual

- **Welcome/Presentation +**
Next Steps/ Close:
 - **World Cafe Open/Close** Dr. Marya Wright
- Breakouts
- **Diversion:**
 - **Community Engagement:** Maileen Marmaradlo
 - **Data:** Patrice Guillory



Town Hall Agenda

- 4:00-5:30- Venue set up (facility/tech)
- 5:15 PM -RJOB volunteers arrive/Log on
- 5:45 PM – Doors Open/ Open Zoom
- 6:05-6:15 PM – Welcome & Grounding
- 6:15-6:35 PM – What is RJOB , Why It Exists, Progress & Updates
- 6:35-7:30 PM - World Café
- 7:30-7:45 PM – Report Back & Themes
- 7:45-7:55 PM- What's Next & How to Stay Engaged
- 7:55-8:00 PM – Closing & Appreciation



Purpose of This Guide

This guide will help you confidently facilitate your World Café breakout group so that participants feel welcomed, heard, and engaged. You do not need to be an expert—your role is simply to create a warm, inclusive space and help the conversation flow.





What is a World Café?

The World Café is a community dialogue process designed to tap into collective wisdom. Participants rotate between tables, exploring different topics through rounds of conversation. Each table has a host who welcomes new participants, guides the discussion, and helps capture the insights (“harvest”) shared.



What is a World Café?

Key Elements

- Conversations are collaborative, not debates.
- We build on one another's ideas.
- Each round adds layers, connections, and new insights.
- The Host stays at the table while participants rotate.



What is a World Café?

Breakout Session Will Focus On:

- Data
- Diversion
- Community Engagement

Each subcommittee will provide specific prompts for each round (to be added once finalized).

World Café Session Opener (5 min)

Provides the quick introduction, instructions, and agreements needed to launch the World Café rounds.

- Alright everyone, we're now moving into our World Café breakout session. Thank you for being here and for bringing your voice into this space.
- The World Café is a simple community dialogue process. You'll have small-group conversations at three tables: Data, Diversion, and Community Engagement. Each table has a host who will welcome you, share a prompt, and help guide the discussion.
- You'll stay at a table for one round of conversation, and then we'll ask you to rotate so ideas can mix across groups. Hosts will remain in place to help connect what different groups share.
- Your role is to speak from your experience, listen to each other, and stay curious. There are no right answers—your lived wisdom is what we're here to learn from. Please share the air, hold stories with care, and build on one another's ideas.
- At the end of each round, your host will gather 1-2 key insights to share during our full group harvest.
- With that, please choose your first table—Data, Diversion, or Community Engagement—and your table host will get you started.

**You can use this
script for guidance**



Session Opener

Café Guidelines

Go over at the start of each round • Feel free to paraphrase

World Café Agreements

- Speak from your experience – use “I” statements.
- Listen to understand, not to respond.
- Honor time and space – share the air.
- Be curious – lean into possibility and creativity.
- Connect ideas – notice themes, patterns, and questions.
- Capture key insights – jot down big ideas or phrases.
- Respect confidentiality – hold stories with care.
- Have grace – this is community work, not perfection.

Table Host Role

You are the steady presence at your table.

- Create a welcoming environment.
- Review the café guidelines and agreements.

- Introduce the topic and prompt for each round.
- Keep time and ensure balanced participation.

- Capture key ideas shared at your table. [NOTES TEMPLATE](#)
- Share a brief report-out during the full-group “harvest”.



Table Host Role

Welcoming the Table

As each new group arrives, warmly welcome them. You can use language like:



“Welcome! My name is _____. Thanks for joining this table. In this round we’ll be exploring the topic of _____ as part of our World Café. Our goal is to surface ideas, lived experiences, and community wisdom to guide RJOB’s work. There are no wrong answers—your perspective matters.”

Then briefly explain the flow:

- The round will last about 15–20 minutes.
- Everyone is encouraged to speak, but listening is just as important.
- You’ll introduce a prompt for their conversation.
- They will rotate to another table at the end of the round.

Table Host Role

World Café Round 1 (15 min)

Community Engagement

What does community engagement look and feel like in your community right now? Who tends to show up, who doesn't, and what shapes that?

Data

When you think about racial equity in the justice system, what helps you make sense of it—data, stories, or lived experience—and what patterns do you notice?

Diversion

From your perspective, what have been your community's experiences with diversion or prevention efforts—whether you participated directly, supported someone, or observed the process?

Table Host Role

World Café Round 2 (15 min)

Community Engagement

What information, resources, or transparency do communities need to better understand RJOB's role, limits, and opportunities—and how could that be shared more clearly?

Data

What information feels incomplete, hard to access, or disconnected from people's real experiences—and how does that affect trust or understanding?

Diversion

Thinking about who is being supported through diversion, who is still not being reached—or is being reached too late—and what might help change that?

Table Host Role

World Café Round 3 (15 min)

Community Engagement

What would meaningful, community-centered engagement look like moving forward—and what actions could RJOB, CEF, and community members take to make that real?

Data

How can RJOB make data more accessible, understandable, and useful to your community—so it supports accountability and action, not just reports?

Diversion

What prevention or early-intervention supports could help people avoid deeper system involvement in the first place?



Time to Harvest!

Sharing the Wisdom (10 min)

Large group share out

Session Closer

After last rotation

- Welcome everyone back to the full group

Sample language: Alright everyone, we're going to bring our final round to a close. Thank you for the rich conversations and for sharing your experiences, insights, and questions with such care.

- Ask each Group/Table Host to share: "What are 1-2 key insights, themes, or questions we want to lift up from this conversation?"
- Close World Cafe and let participants know next steps

Sample language: The key themes that came up tonight will directly support RJOB subcommittees as we continue shaping recommendations and community-driven solutions.

Town Hall Closing

You can use
this script for
guidance



- Thank you all for showing up and sharing your voice tonight. What you offered will directly guide the next steps of RJOB's work.
- Before we leave, let's take one grounding breath together—in...and out. Hold one word you're carrying with you from tonight.
- We appreciate you. Please travel safely, stay connected, and we hope to see you at future RJOB gatherings.





Q & A