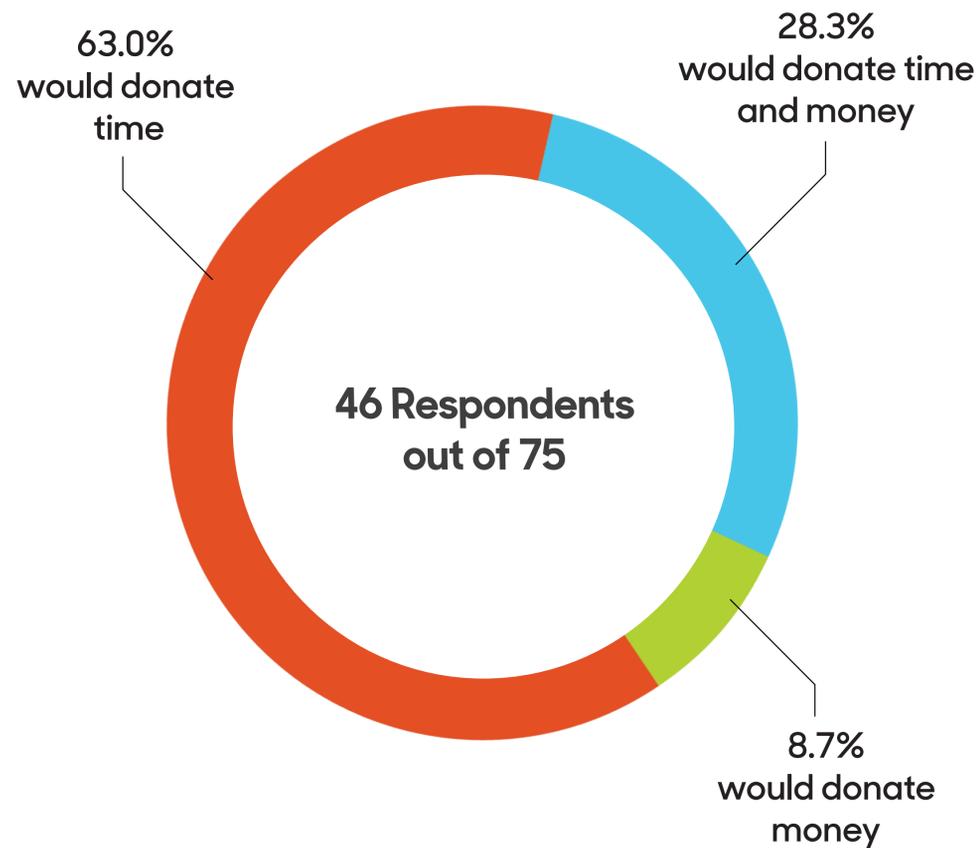


ARE PEOPLE WILLING TO HELP?

More than 61% said YES!



Willingness to implement change

Of those who answered yes to this question, more than half are willing to contribute their time to community improvements (63.0%), while 28.3% would contribute their time and money. More than 8.7% of respondents indicated that they would be willing to contribute financially.

Compared to other small towns in Iowa, Alleman residents are more willing to become involved in improving their community. In 2014, on average, 43% of residents in small, rural towns volunteered to help with a community project.¹ Alleman exceeds this average by 18%.

¹ Sigma: A Profile of Iowa Small Towns 1994 to 2014 (Ames, IA: Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2015).

WHAT DID PEOPLE SAY?

Survey Participants Said...



"[The City of Alleman should establish Iowa Code] 28E sharing agreements with [the North Polk] schools when it's beneficial to both parties [to create] something like pollinators or nature areas or shaded streetscapes or informational signage."

"[Alleman should find] funding with [Iowa] DNR, Prairie Meadows, [County] Conservation, grant money for recreation. Incorporate food vendors (Big Red Truck) into pathways to attract out of towners on trails like Slater has [Nite Hawk Bar and Grill] on [its] trail."



"...I can't think of anything that will make a bigger difference in communities than opening the potential for people to see, interact, and really get to know one another! Improving our walking/trail systems is growing towards this!"

HOW DO YOU GET PEOPLE TO HELP?

Ask, Show, and Advertise Opportunities

In 2014, the most common reason residents in small-town Iowa said they didn't become involved in community projects is that no one asked them (34%). Twenty-eight percent on average said that they don't have time, which is significantly lower than the 2004 average of 59%. Sixteen percent indicated that they didn't know how to become involved, and 7% said that no community project needed volunteers.¹ These results indicate that the best ways to get people involved in community projects is to simply ask, along with advertising opportunities through traditional and social media outlets.

¹ Sigma: A Profile of Iowa Small Towns 1994 to 2014 (Ames, IA: Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2015).