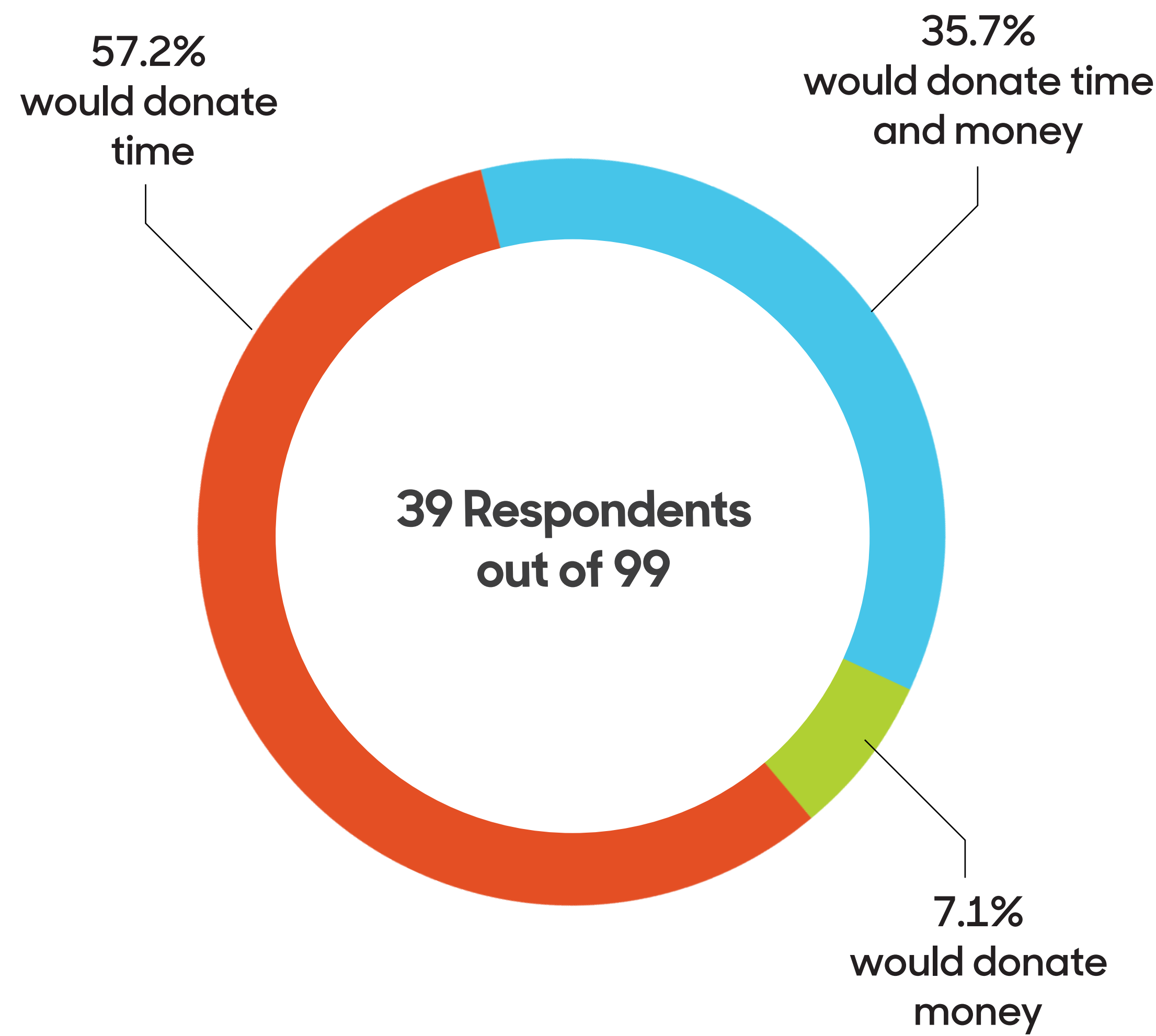


## ARE PEOPLE WILLING TO HELP?

# More than 39% said YES!



### Willingness to implement change

Most survey participants who answered this question are willing to contribute their time to community improvements (57.2%), while 35.7% would contribute their time and talent. More than 7% of respondents indicated that they would be willing to contribute financially.

Compared to other small towns in Iowa, Elkader residents are less 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.<sup>1</sup> Elkader is 4% below this average.

<sup>1</sup> 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...



"[There are] no bike racks! We need them! I'd ride more often for business if we had them."

"Elkader is a safe community and a lot of people use the trail."



"...the three-way stop crossing the river on Bridge Street is confusing and [unsafe]."

## 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Sigma: A Profile of Iowa Small Towns 1994 to 2014 (Ames, IA: Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2015).

# Elkader

## Willingness to Help

### Transportation Behavior and Needs Survey

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