



# Collective Impact Lincoln 2018 Canvassing Report

## Results of deep canvassing in six core neighborhoods

Collective Impact Lincoln creates lasting, meaningful, resident-led investment and positive change in Lincoln's core neighborhoods. Through canvassing, community events, and Community Builder Workshops, we help neighbors examine their communities' natural strengths and take up new ways to improve.

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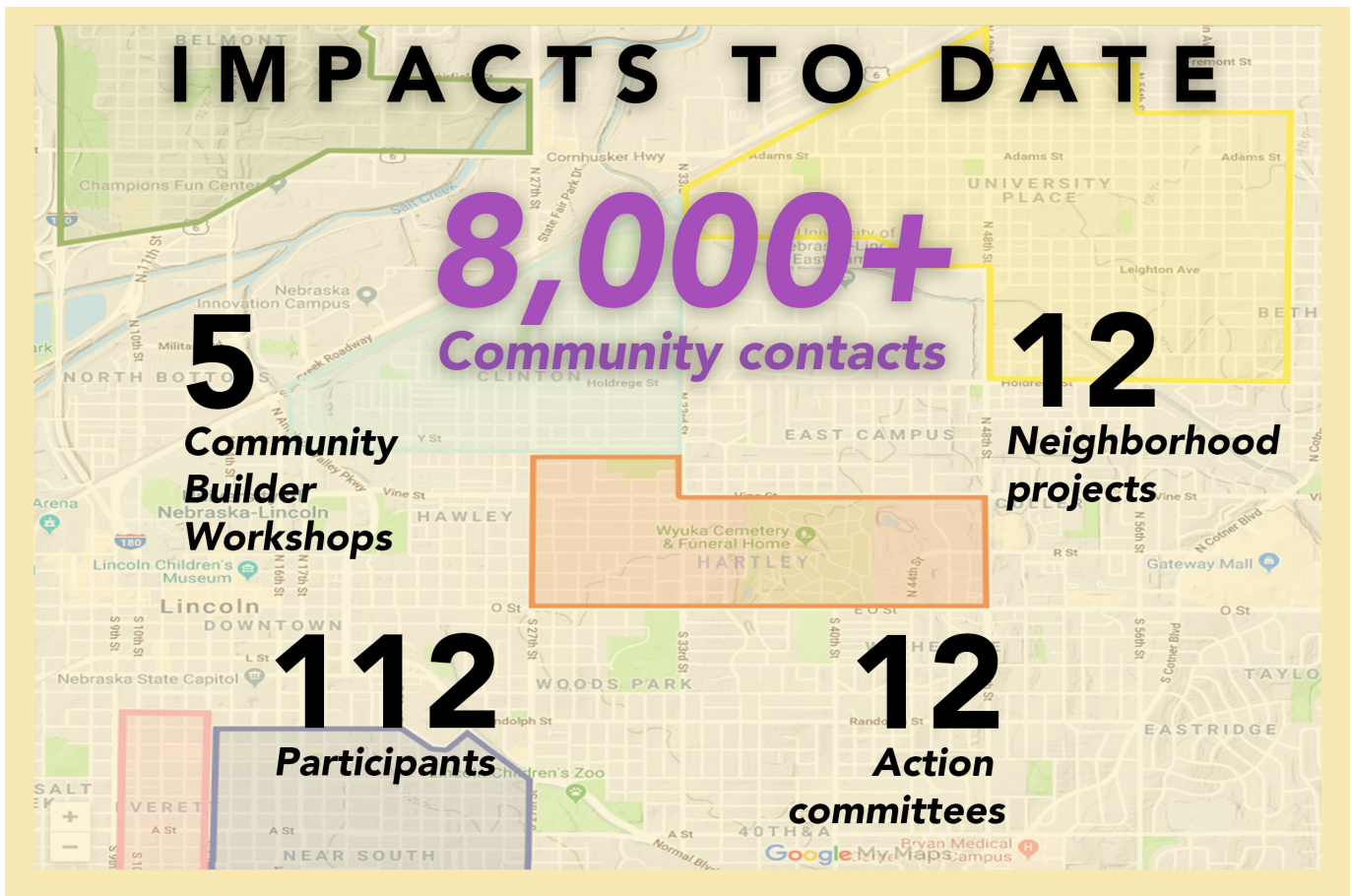
By Nancy Pettito

## Overall Findings

**C**ollective Impact Lincoln has been busy the past year, connecting with residents and community members in our six focus neighborhoods. Collective Impact Lincoln organizers continued canvassing efforts during 2018 and engaged in over 8,000 conversations at neighbors' doors and at community events. Over the course of the project, we have hosted five Community Builder Workshops for 112 neighborhood leaders. We had 12 successful neighborhood projects in 2018, including the University Place Farmers Market and family literacy partnerships in Everett and Belmont. Collective Impact Lincoln also has started funding neighborhood mini-grants to provide additional support and meaningful change through resident-led projects.

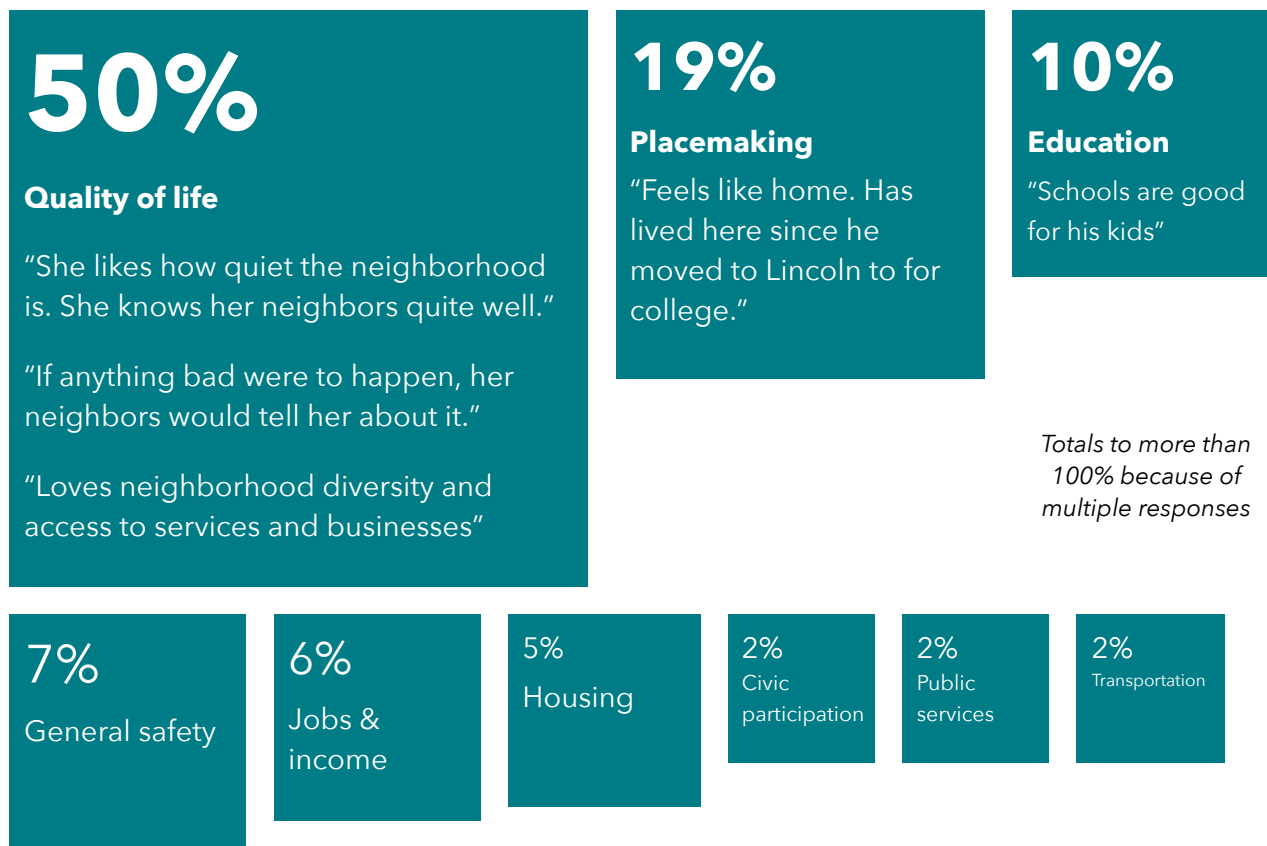
Based on conversations through deep canvassing, housing became the first policy issue Collective Impact Lincoln addressed. Our housing affordability grassroots campaign has involved hosting neighborhood forums to discuss the best way to address affordability and adequacy issues, activating and encouraging residents to share their housing experiences with city leaders, and advocating for change through policy reform.

This 2018 Canvassing Report highlights what we have been hearing at the doors – what residents like most or least about their neighborhoods and how they feel about issues such as housing, employment, and transportation. We will start canvassing this spring to continue these conversations to help shape the direction of our project. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you!

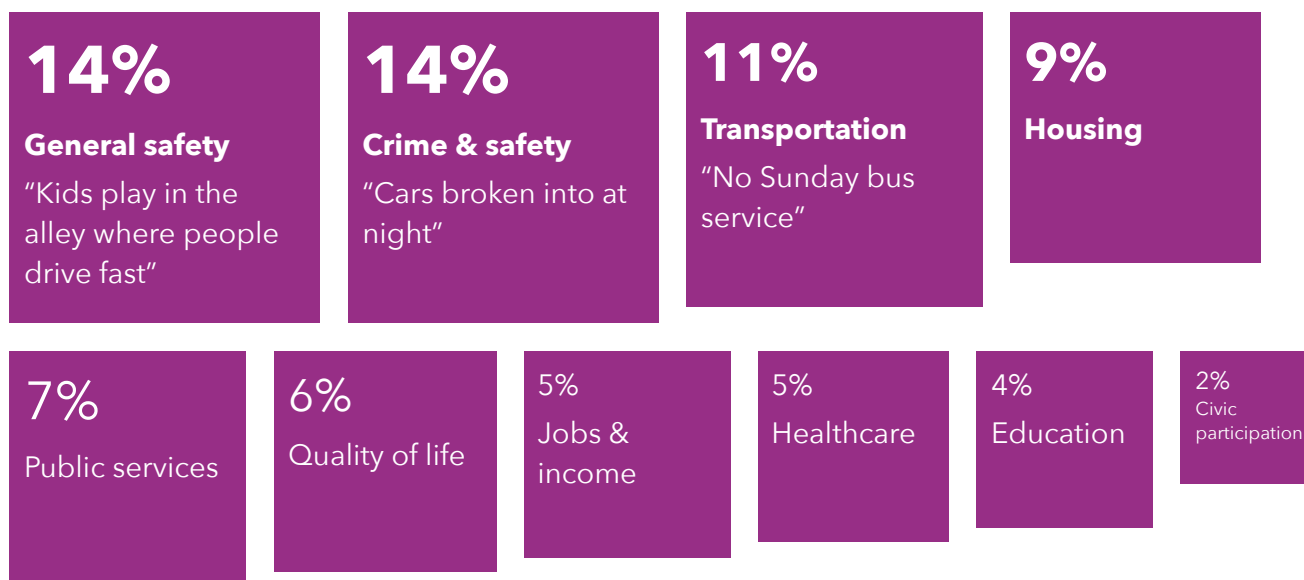


## What residents like most and least about their neighborhood

**Positive** – Is there something you like about Lincoln, our community, and/or our neighborhood?



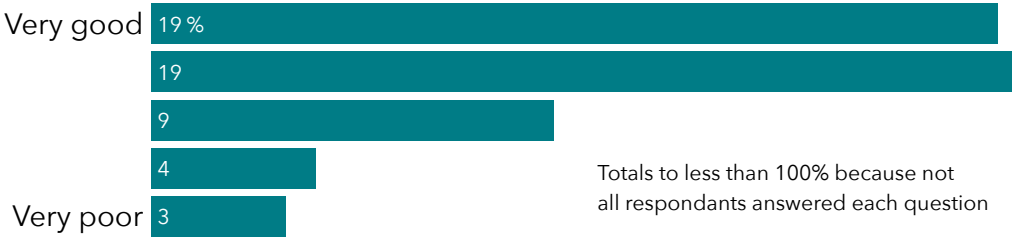
**Concerns** – What is something you would like to improve, or what is one thing you'd like to change about Lincoln, our community, and/or our neighborhood?



# Neighborhood topics in focus

## Housing

Housing is an issue that has been identified in conversations. We asked residents how they feel about their housing situation or the housing situation in their neighborhood.



### What residents are saying about housing in Everett and Near South:

- +** "The landlord is kind to her and very helpful. He has helped her read her mail for her in English and interpret it using google translate."  
"Has lived here 5-6 years, loves how cheap his rent is"
- "Has had issues with bedbugs, rats, cockroaches. Usually contacts landlord when she has a problem but isn't always responsive – takes effort to get issues fixed. Considers all of these hazards for her children. Doesn't have renter's insurance, doesn't have good credit so she can't rent elsewhere. Current home is affordable."  
"Wants to buy house eventually, move out of the neighborhood because there's more stores, restaurants elsewhere."

**Note:** Residents in Everett and Near South who reported their housing was very good noted their landlord was responsive or they had a good relationship with their landlord. About half of residents who said their housing was poor or very poor mentioned the landlord was unresponsive or they had little relationship with their landlord.

## Employment

Employment and jobs is another issue often discussed. Residents shared information about their current job situation and how employment impacts their life, and those around them.



### What residents are saying about employment in Belmont and Clinton:

- +** "Work and pay is good. Her husband has a good job and went to community college to learn English."  
"Easy to find jobs, good pay"
- "Jobs with reasonable, consistent schedules are difficult to find without an education."  
"Isn't paid super well as a staff member. Working a second job helping landscaping work."

## Transportation

Residents were asked about transportation and their experience with getting around in Lincoln.



### What residents are saying about transportation in University Place and Hartley:

- + "Likes the access to bike paths and stores"
- "Likes the bus system as an alternative to driving on icy roads"
- "Concerned about the 33rd and Cornhusker overchange"
- "Would like to see how the city deals with the crazy traffic"

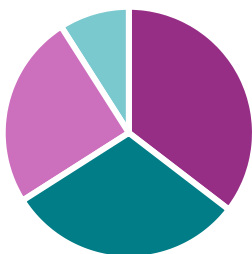
## Engagement and neighborhood connections



### Contact

Residents were asked if they talked to anyone about the issues mentioned previously (housing, employment, transportation), such as neighbors, friends, or city officials.

● Yes: 22% ● No: 14%



### Engagement

Residents shared their level of engagement and if they thought it would be useful to contact the appropriate power structure about an issue.

● No: 17% ● Yes, and I know how: 15%  
● No, for specific reason: 12% ● Yes, tell me how: 4%

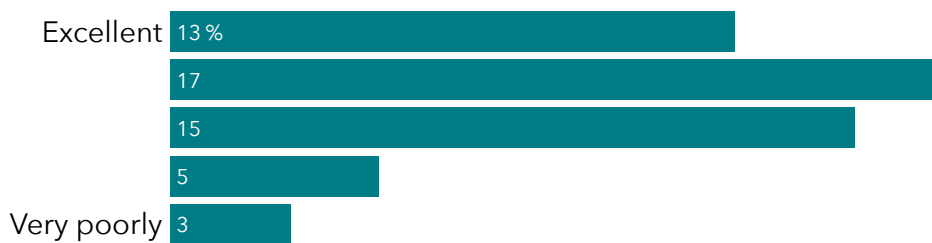
"Doesn't know how to. Possibly sees it as useful, but doesn't know where to start or access connections with city, state."

"Feels like if he wanted to talk about things, there would be retaliation or that he might just be ignored."

"Police said they can't do anything about stolen bikes"

## Confidence in institutions

We also asked residents how they feel places like schools, the city, churches, or other institutions are doing to address their needs?



"It's good that stores give food to churches as donations"

"His kids went to school in the neighborhood, and he thinks the school did a great job"

"Doesn't have confidence that the city will work for the people. Discomfort with the political climate."

"Schools are too crowded due to recent growth"

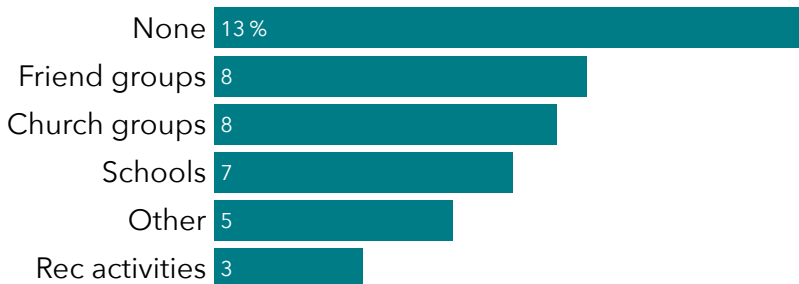
## Comfort with newcomers

Residents were asked if they are comfortable having a conversation with newcomers in the neighborhood.



## Community connections

We asked residents if there are any communities they feel connected to, either in or outside of the neighborhood. Residents were also asked what they do in their spare time.



"Is part of the First Plymouth Church and has attended since the early 60s"

"Used to hold block parties, but stopped because no one wanted to collaborate"

"Knows most of her neighbors because she runs a daycare"

## Meet the team



**Nancy Petitto**  
Program Manager



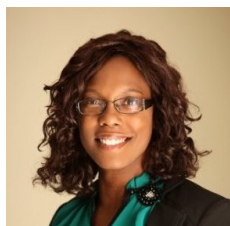
**Isabel Salas**  
Community Organizer  
Everett and Near South



**José Lemus**  
Community Organizer  
University Place and Hartley



**Damali Britton**  
Weitz Fellow  
Belmont and Clinton



**Renee Just**  
Staff Attorney



**Natasha Naseem**  
Community Organizer  
Belmont and Clinton

Canvassers also included Selina Martinez, Jewel Zuria Rodgers, and Raul Noguera-McElroy. Report by John Skiles Skinner. Data support by Brett Andres. Thank you to the volunteers who helped gather canvassing data.

**Thank you to the whole team!**



The data from this report is compiled by Collective Impact Lincoln, a partnership between Civic Nebraska, Nebraska Appleseed, and South of Downtown Community Development Organization.



Lifting up Lincoln neighborhoods to  
be the positive change they envision.

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