

These are challenging, confusing times...

Here in the United States, we are divided. On the national level, we are seeking change, but disagreeing on the direction that change should take. Worst of all, it's easy to feel helpless; knowing that there are larger forces at work, feeling like they are more powerful than any small group of us can change.

Yet in our communities we know and experience the good of our neighbors, our friends, our colleagues. We share kindnesses, laughter, and joy every day. We work alongside one another. We feel valued and we value others in return. We say "hello" and ask "how are you doing?" In our own communities, we know that we can positively affect other people's lives.

So, what can we do?

How can we take the values and actions making our local communities healthy, thriving places and use them to bring more people together in a meaningful way?

Those questions led us at TimeBanks USA to create...

Gathering With A Purpose

Gathering With A Purpose is a four-part series of gatherings - one potluck and three workshops - that explore the acts of giving and receiving towards building more resilient, resourceful communities.

The complex nature of giving and receiving with one another is something that we often take for granted and, as a result, tend to overlook and neglect. But, through our decades of experience with timebanking, we've come to realize how important it is. We believe that change happens on the local level through the reciprocity of individual actions in relationships - that's why we've brought you Gathering With A Purpose.

Each gathering provides participants with new skills, useful resources and opportunities to create direct benefit in their community. **So, what do you need to do?**

If you've received this, someone thinks you are a valuable member and/or leader of your community. **They want you to join a group of your neighbors by attending and contributing to these four gatherings.** All you have to do is sign up with them and show up ready to gather with a purpose.

If you are interested in participating here in central Vermont,

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