

Local Love. Lasting Impact.

A Jefferson Dinner is a unique and intentional style of gathering inspired by Thomas Jefferson's approach to hosting meals. Rather than casual or fragmented conversation, Jefferson Dinners are designed to foster meaningful dialogue around a single topic, often related to civic engagement, community building, or shared values.

Key Features of a Jefferson Dinner:

- Small group format: Typically 8-14 guests to encourage intimacy and depth.
- Single conversation: Everyone participates in one shared discussion rather than multiple side conversations.
- Guided questions: A host or facilitator poses thoughtful, open-ended questions to spark reflection and dialogue.
- No distractions: Phones and other devices are usually set aside to maintain focus.
- Inclusive atmosphere: Everyone is encouraged to share their perspectives, and listening is just as important as speaking.

Purpose:

Jefferson Dinners are often used by nonprofits, foundations, and civic organizations to:

- Build trust and relationships
- Explore complex issues in a respectful setting
- Inspire collective action or deeper understanding