



North Sound ACH August 2025 Convening

Creating a Community Space: Partner Engagement
Overview

Strategic Areas of a Thriving Community

Engagement around the design and function of a community campus was framed by five strategic areas, which were adapted from the Vital Conditions for Well-Being. The five strategic areas used were:

Community & Belonging

Equity - Civic Muscle - Tribal Relations - Intergenerational Well-being

This includes **Belonging & Civic Muscle** as well as fulfilling relationships and social support that people need to thrive. Social support through friends, family, and other networks contributes to our practical and emotional needs, enhances mental well-being, helps us navigate the challenges of life, and reinforces healthy behaviors. This also includes our **relationships and understanding with tribal nations** and the people who have been on this land since time immemorial.

Health & Well-being

Physical Health - Mental & Emotional Health - Humane Housing

This includes **Basic Needs for Health & Safety** and **Humane Housing**. Physical and mental well-being starts with access to fresh air and water, nutritious food, and the security of a stable home. It also includes the freedom to express gender and sexuality and a life free from violence, injury, and toxic stress. Access to routine and critical health care is also an important factor to maintaining health and well-being. **Humane Housing** is about stable, safe places to live, and living in vibrant communities that lead to full, productive lives.

Thriving Natural World

Environment - Sustainable Energy - Climate Change

This is about having clean air, clean water, clean land, and well-functioning ecosystems. A healthy environment is one that is free from environmental hazards, one that is resilient to future changes and threats, and one that fulfills our needs to connect with nature.

Meaningful Work & Financial Security

Workforce Development - Business & Industry - Financial Security

Personal, family, and community wealth provides the means for healthy, secure lives. That includes good-paying, fulfilling jobs and careers, and financial security that extends across the lifespan. Peoples' lives and self-worth flourish when doing productive, rewarding work. The ability to accumulate adequate wealth shapes the living standards not only for individual families and communities, but for generations to come.

Human Flourishing

Lifelong Learning - Reliable Transportation - Arts, Culture & Entertainment

This includes **Lifelong Learning** and **Reliable Transportation**. **Lifelong Learning** is about providing a good education for all that ensures all people, regardless of age, background, or ability, are set up for success, and have the opportunities to reach their full potential. **Reliable Transportation** is about walkable communities that needs less commuting, and moving easily between home, work, school, and stores. Transportation options influence access to jobs, social mobility, and our health. Other topics that may be included are: **arts, culture, and entertainment, fitness ,sports and recreation, and mind, body and spiritual well-being.**

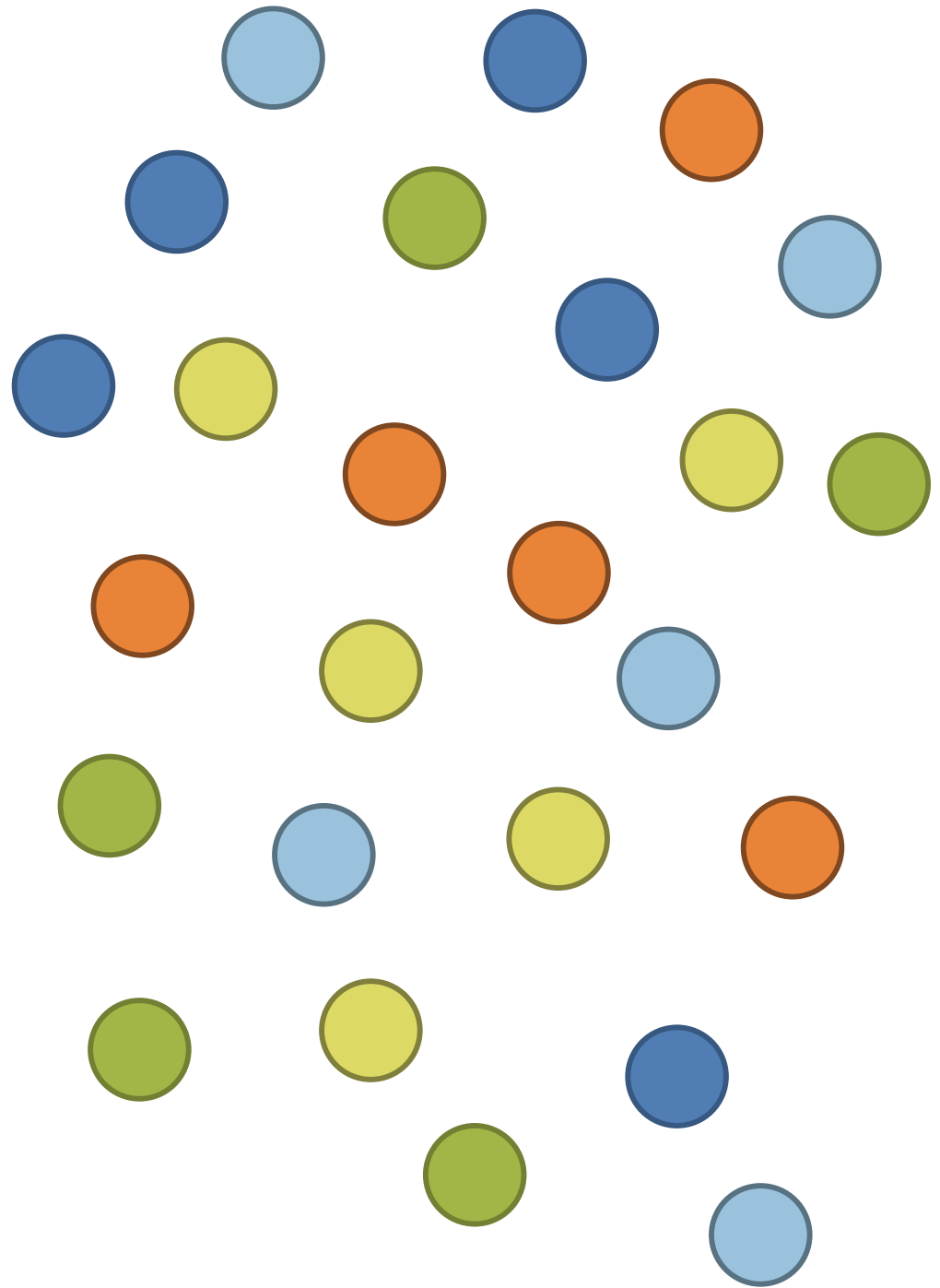
Engagement Process

The three partner engagement sessions of the 2025 August partner convening took place over the course of the day.

The first session was held with 25 tables of ~9 partners each contributing. Each table had a North Sound ACH staff member facilitating the engagement session. In this session partners were asked to answer the question *'What ideas do you have for the possible community campus'*. The goal for this session was to gather as many ideas as possible, then have the group nominate their top idea for each strategic area.

In between the first and second sessions, North Sound ACH staff compiled each table's notes under the five strategic areas used as a framework for the day. For the second session, attendees were broken into larger groups that focused on a single strategic area. These groups had two goals – identify their top five ideas for each strategic area, and to sort all ideas on whether they were goals or values. Goals being achievable actions such as murals, wheelchair ramps, etc., while values consisted of qualities the possible campus could embody, such as beauty, safety, or community.

During the third and final engagement session, each group shared with the rest of the convening attendees what had come to the top of each group's list, after which the room was invited to share their thoughts and all of the lists together were summarized.



Partner Engagement

Phase 1



Partner Engagement – Phase 1

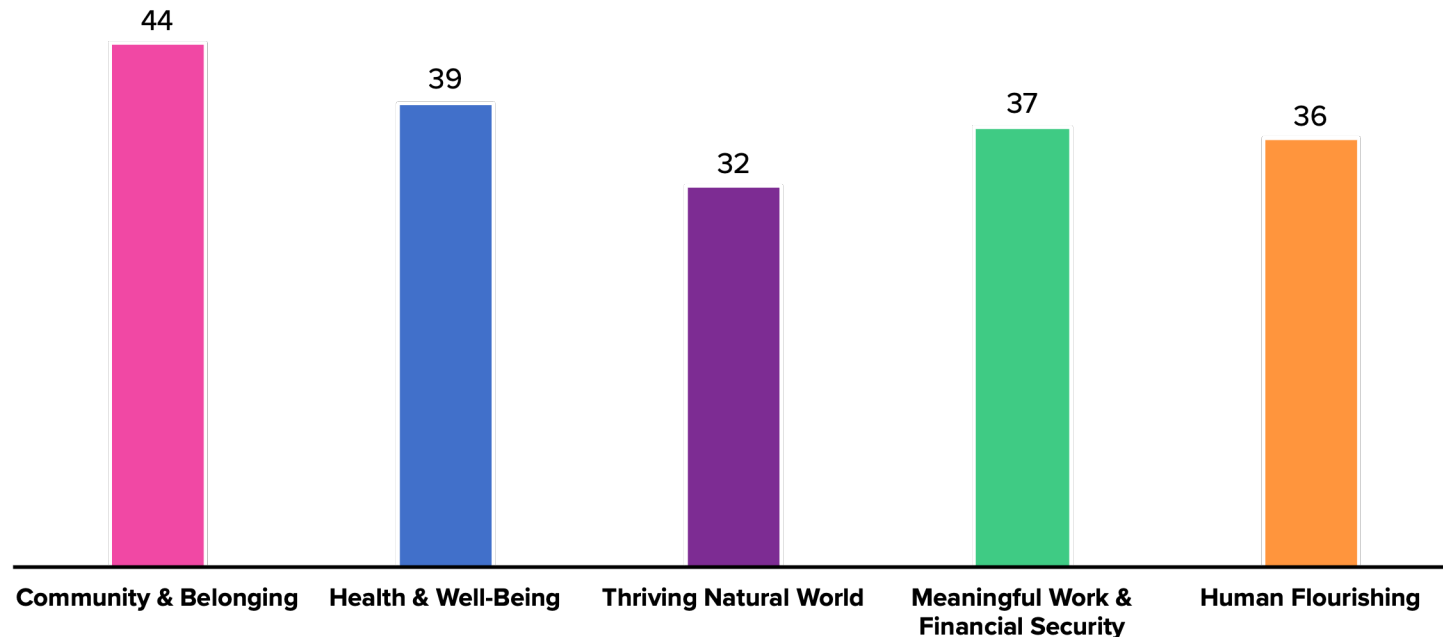
Between the 25 tables in the first round of partner engagement sessions, 807 ideas were gathered. The goal of the first round of engagement was to gather as many ideas as possible from each table, then nominate the top idea from every strategic area.

At the conclusion of Phase 1, many tables had identified multiple priorities for each strategic area. The strategic areas **Community & Belonging** and **Health & Well-Being** saw more ideas surface to the top than the other strategic areas.

	Total ideas in strategic area	Percent of top ideas
Community & Belonging	44	23.4%
Health & Well-being	39	20.7%
Thriving Natural World	32	17.0%
Meaningful Work & Financial Security	37	19.7%
Human Flourishing	36	19.1%

Partner Engagement - Phase 1

Community & Belonging and Health & Well-Being were prioritized the most



Partner Engagement – Phase 1 Top Ideas

Community & Belonging	Health & Well-being	Thriving Natural World	Meaningful Work & Financial Security	Human Flourishing
cultural space (identity)	housing	intergenerational community garden	business center (training, etc)	transportation center
community kitchen	rec center with pantry & showers	intergenerational community cafe	childcare center	walls covered by art made by community
space for adaptation and new beginnings	community kitchen	design informed by biomimicry	functional garage for auto repair	social justice wellness center
multicultural intergenerational play space	holistic health	sustainable community garden	financial empowerment and employment	accessibility through intentional inclusion
culture of inclusion	wellness resource hub	environment	accessible workforce development	incorporating ancestral knowledge
culture of Healing	resource sharing	green spaces	referral coordinators	achieving movement of spirit
hub and spoke	space for medical, wrap around, 'alternative' healing practices	architecture/landscaping - strengthening our belief that we are nature	shared database (community information exchange)	culture & identity learning/retainment
constellation of locations with place-based services	go to space to provide most cutting edge resources (holistic care)	carbon neutral/renewable energy	shared resources	YMCA-like facility
accessibility - marketing	opportunity to exchange & share resources	healthy & sustainable food	regional retreat center with overnight accommodations on the mainland	accessibility: arts & culture space
foundational agreements between orgs (mission & policies)	using universal & trauma-informed principles to create a welcoming space for all	garden space	non-exploitive, regenerative workforce development	accessibility: transportation
accessibility - physical space	local rec center with a pool & gym on each island (YMCA)	place for play	employment access services	accessibility: non-bias
variety of gathering spaces that encourage connection	integrated services	eco-friendly open building with outdoor space	tech navigators	accessibility: language access
community-led intergenerational well-being	CHW/navigator space	LEED certified	childcare resources	accessibility: multiple perspectives considered
intergenerational care	clinic space	community garden	financial literacy programming (language inclusive)	accessibility: learning center
expanded hours of access	rotating organizational use/resources/workshops	intentional natural spaces (material use/open spaces)	meeting spaces	multipurpose exploration space (art/play/cook)
open 24/7 (accessibility)	access to resource specialist/CHW	outdoor space with native garden	teach people how to get out of debt (financial planning & budgeting with appropriate language & educational classes)	community learning programs/mentorships
open use/multiuse with staff provided	dedicated space for all health professionals	hydroponic garden	collective community development	shared knowledge resources
100-200 capacity	Multi use building housing first	sustainable construction and operation	career services	on transit/bus/shuttle
commercial kitchen	wrap around low barrier accessible spaces (ADA)	sustainable design and function	workforce development	have people sign up to teach classes that use the center/campus
Co-op community solutions center	health care (medical, dental, vision, mental health, specialists, referral linkages, nutrition)	outdoor/indoor spaces and education garden	financial support (planning, investing)	flexible, accessible and inclusive
safe equity multipurpose space and collaboration kitchen	24hr functional shelter	energy efficient (solar, trees for shade, clean air)	community center apprenticeship	identifying the limitations of area where the facilities will be located (transportation, operation hours, tour county and organizations)
cultural center (welcoming art & entrance, opportunities to connect across; interpreters, cultural input)	life skills classes & space	sustainable community garden	college navigation	access to transportation (including bus vouchers, car sharing, car repair, vans)
resource center	wrap around resource hub	green spaces	flexible holistic workspace	cultural community kitchen
workspace	Housing	sustainable design with native plants	workforce development	reliable regional transportation
childcare	food	create a space that is energy efficient, solar based energy	youth courses	multiple & mobile community-tailored
accessible adaptable third place	shelter	sustainable	financial literacy	affordable van access
integrity based system, everyone feels they have access and belong	ability to co-locate services	reflects and serves both human and mor-than-human members of community	internal workforce development	ACH transportation services
multi-everything (generational, lingual, etc)	wrap-around services that remove power dynamics	outdoor space & low impact to natural environment	external workforce development	tribal sovereignty
center for growing human & natural relationships	temporary housing - residential	indoor space & low impact to natural environment	spaces of learning	multipurpose activity space
dorms	cross train for marginalized community	environmental justice stewardship (no AI, ethics, plastic free)	access to partner resources	relatives
Gardens	skagit county shelter	green space setting	meaningful space for mentorship "sharing"	event space for entertainment
Classrooms	workshops taught by trusted community members	nature navigators	how can space help "move" people forward	intergenerational learning lab
accessibility	leverage the network member services	strategic community garden with native plants	financial literacy education	transit to center
welcoming for all	community navigators	transportation	resource center	multi-use for underserved community
involvement and participation	basic needs	education opportunities	TU approach (Black, underserved youth)	emphasis people feel valued, role to play
college club framework	upper floors - affordable housing		leverage network wide internship program	mobile learning experiences
individual identity inclusion	lower floors - transportation		job coaching	transportation
innovation opportunities	lower floors - clinical spaces for medical, dental		resume wall	
multicultural collaboration & learning	lower floors - substance use disorder treatment		financial literacy	
work that needs to put in to use the space			transportation	
community can be the networking learning or who they serve				
cultural autonomy				
third place				
transportation				
infrastructure database to connect people in intentional ways				
advocate for people to use data				

Partner Engagement

Phase 2



Partner Engagement – Phase 2 Goals

The second phase of partner engagement entailed taking all of the ideas generated in Phase 1 and sorting them by whether they were goals or values. Network partners focused on one of the strategic areas and determined whether every top idea generated in Phase 1 from every table was a specific, achievable benchmark (a goal), or a consideration that should be included throughout the design process (a value).

Partners then selected their top five ideas for the category they were assigned to move forward into the final phase. After the convening, the top ideas were sorted by the Vital Conditions for Well-being, some ideas in this section were condensed or combined if they were similar. A full list of goals identified in Phase 2, along with the number of times that goal surfaced, is below.

Basic Needs for Health & Safety	Open 24 hours	11
	Community garden & kitchen	9
	Clinic space	9
	Healthy & sustainable food (culturally relevant and meets specific needs)	8
	Resource center	4
	Holistic health & integrated care	4
	Data infrastructure to improve regional resources	3
	Senior care	3
	Hub & Spoke resource model	2
	Wrap-around mobile services	2
	Wellness center	1
	Resource center for each island in San Juans	1

Belonging & Civic Muscle	Multicultural, multigenerational, and multilingual spaces for play, care, and gathering	36
	Locations across the region	11
	Meeting space	10
	Cultural spaces	6
	Resource sharing - including data bases, SDOH, etc	5
	Community art	2
	Event space - including retreat center/overnight accommodations	2
	Create foundational agreements between organizations	1
	Private spaces	1
	Coworking space	1
	Enrichment space	1
	Third place	1

Humane Housing	Housing First model - multi-use building	12
	Shelter	5
	Shelter for Skagit County	1

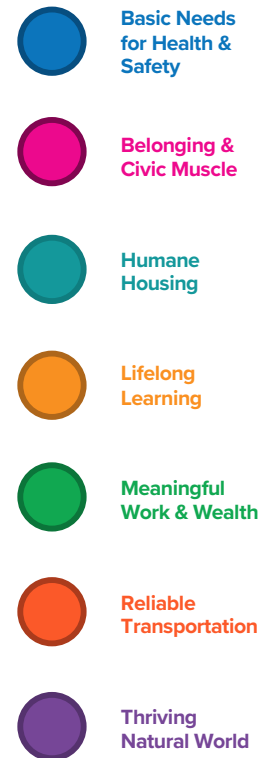
Lifelong Learning	Flexible space for community learning, inc. intergenerational learning	13
	Youth courses	5
	Mobile learning services	3
	Mentorship programs	1
	College navigation	1
	Network-wide internship program	1

Meaningful Work & Wealth	Workforce development resources	26
	Rotating organizational workshops & resources	20
	Financial literacy programming	15
	Childcare resources	11
	Black economic development	10
	CHW/Navigator space	4
	Career services	3
	IT services	1
	Non-profit development services	1

Reliable Transportation	Bus or shuttle services	13
	Accessible to transit	1
	Functional garage for auto repair	1
	Safe parking	1

Thriving Natural World	Sustainable community garden with native plants	5
	Green spaces with trees & shade	2
	Nature navigators	2
	LEED Certified	1
	Space to respond to climate/natural disasters and emergency preparedness	1
	Carbon neutral/uses renewable energy	1
	Hydroponic garden	1
	Outdoor meeting & education space	1

Phase 2 Goals



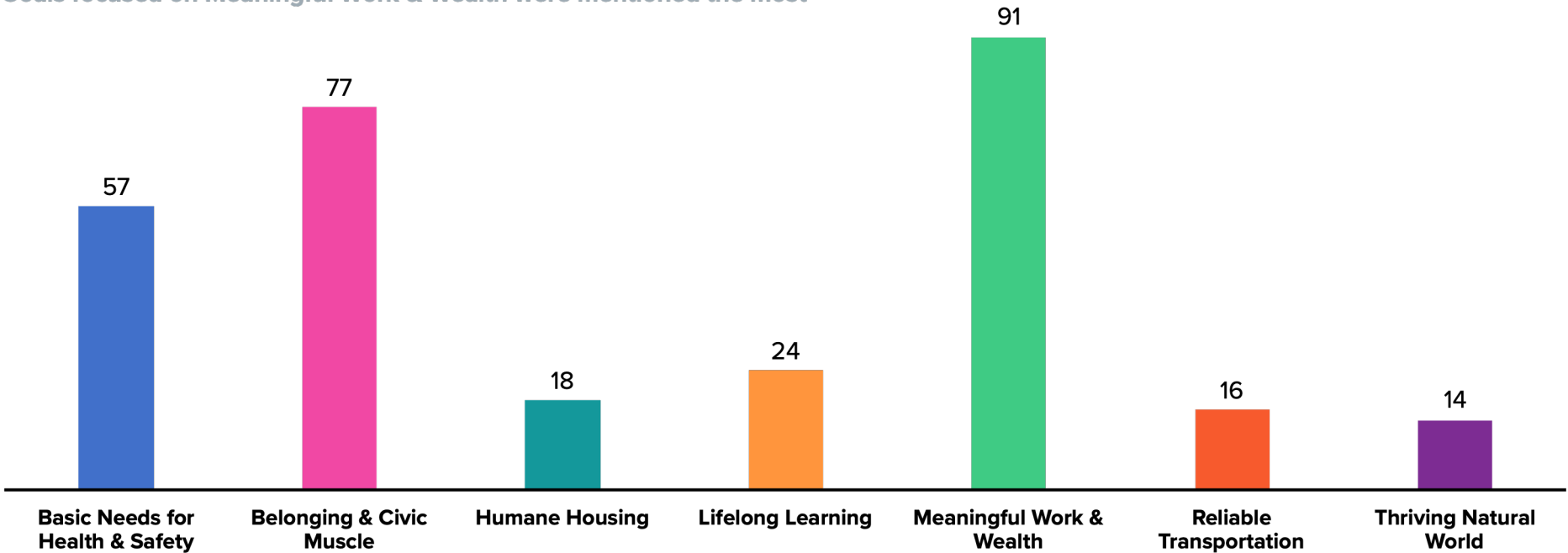
Partner Engagement – Phase 2 Goals

Goals having to do with **Meaningful Work & Wealth** made up a higher percentage of goals than any other category. **Belonging & Civic Muscle** and **Basic Needs for Health & Safety** saw the next highest mentions, though these categories also had the largest variety of goals listed. Together, these three categories made up 76% of the total responses, providing a clear focus.

	Total Goals	Percentage of Total Goals
Basic Needs for Health & Safety	57	19%
Belonging & Civic Muscle	77	26%
Humane Housing	18	6%
Lifelong Learning	24	8%
Meaningful Work & Wealth	91	31%
Reliable Transportation	16	5%
Thriving Natural World	14	5%

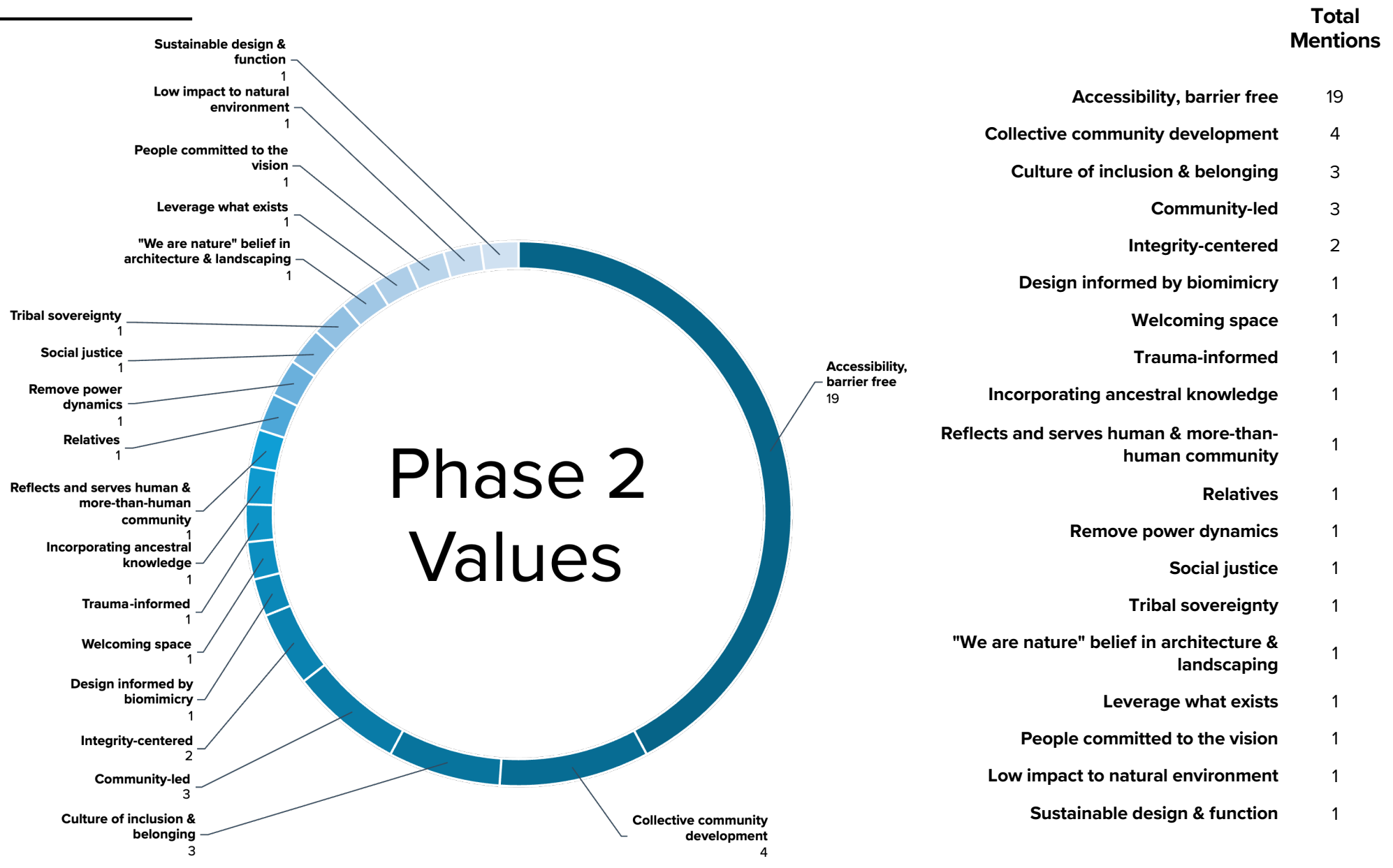
Partner Engagement - Phase 2

Goals focused on Meaningful Work & Wealth were mentioned the most



Partner Engagement – Phase 2 Values

Separate from the goals that were identified, partners also identified which values were surfaced in the first phase of engagement. Values were not categorized by Vital Conditions for Well-Being, but were pulled into their own list as priorities for design throughout the entire process. As with the goals that were surfaced, some ideas were combined based on similarity.



Partner Engagement

Phase 3



Partner Engagement – Phase 3 Final Goals

In the final portion of Phase 2, the large groups identified the top five most important goals that surfaced through the entire process for their assigned strategic area. Once those goals were identified they were shared out to the entire partner convening as Phase 3 of engagement.

These goals have been sorted by the Vital Conditions for Well-Being and are listed to the right.

Basic Needs for Health & Safety	Community kitchen
	Clinic space
	CHW/Navigator space
	Healthy & sustainable food
	Non-traditional services that fill gaps (i.e. childcare, garage)
	Multipurpose space (art/play/cook)

Belonging & Civic Muscle	Multicultural & multigenerational space
	Foundational agreements between organizations
	Resource center
	Organizational data infrastructure to improve regional resources
	Ambassadors of hope
	Hub and spoke resource model
	Open 24 hours
	Wrap-around mobile unit services
	Private & shared spaces that are flexible and adaptable
	Resource sharing
	Flexible meeting/learning spaces
	Collective community development (co-op model)
	Physical accessibility, equitable and barrier-free services
	Enrichment space (recreational, educational, kitchen, community engagement, outdoor space)

Humane Housing	Multi-use building & Housing First model
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Lifelong Learning	Rotating organizations use, resources, workshops
	Outdoor education & engagement
	Mobile learning services

Meaningful Work & Wealth	Intergenerational workforce/skill development
	Financial literacy

Reliable Transportation	Transit (bus/shuttle/car)
	More than one location, each location having regional place-based services

Thriving Natural World	Natural spaces (outdoor seating, green spaces, resilient architecture)
	Garden (community, native plants, trees/shade, hydroponic)
	LEED certified
	Low-barrier nature access coordinator
	Design informed by biomimicry
	Native gardens and plants

Partner Engagement

Summary



Partner Engagement – Summary

Throughout the three phases of partner engagement, 807 initial ideas were generated by over 220 participants. By the end of Phase 3, those 807 ideas had been streamlined into a set of 35 achievable goals and 19 values to be considered during the planning and construction of a possible community campus.

After the convening, the top goals were sorted by the Vital Conditions for Well-being. Ideas related to **Basic Needs for Health & Safety** and **Belonging & Civic Muscle** rose to the top.

