Legislative Dinner for Six

What do we hope to accomplish?

With so many legislators, each with a unique story to tell, representing diverse districts, the “Dinner for Six” will give us an opportunity to reconnect with each other and meet with others for the first time in a fun, relaxed environment, have interesting discussions and truly get to know each other - not discuss policy! The purpose is not to change to anyone’s mind about anything but rather to build the relationships that at the heart of getting anything – including and maybe especially passing legislation – done.

Who organizes the groups?

One Republican and one Democrat team up to be co-hosts. The co-hosts are responsible for organizing the dinner. Co-hosts are responsible for recruiting approximately 2 democrats and 2 republicans to join them for a meal. However, co-hosts can choose to have a smaller or larger gathering.

Does it have to be a dinner?

No. Co-hosts determine whether they want to organize a dinner, brunch, cocktail hour, etc.

When will the gatherings happen?

Gatherings will take during the legislative session. The co-hosts will coordinate with participants to determine the exact date and time of each gathering.

How much will this cost?

If the gathering is held in a restaurant, then co-hosts should strive to find a restaurant where all participants can pay for the meal, a beverage and tip for no more than $20. If the gathering is held at a host’s home, the host will indicate if he/she would like the participants to either split the cost of preparing the meal or bring a dish/drink.

If I am a host, do I need to host the gathering at my home and cook for everyone?

No. The beauty of “Dinner for Six” is that the hosts decide what kind of gathering it will be. If participants will meet for a meal, or just drinks. Will it be at a restaurant or a host’s home? If in a home, feel free to ask everyone to contribute to the meal. We call this “potluck style.”
How do you decide on a time/date for gathering?

It is the co-hosts’ responsibility to identify a time for the gathering that works for all members of the group.

Can partners and/or kids come?

The concept of Dinner for Six is that with six people there are few enough people to be able to get to know one another. In addition, sometimes there are factors such as space limitations. Co-hosts do have the option to include partners or families.

Etiquette

“Dinner for Six” participants are expected to use “Chatham House Rules,” meaning that, the individual views shared during the “Dinner for Six” are not to be attributed to the individual after the meal. This will ensure open dialogue.