EVALUATING SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR NON-PROFIT WORKPLACES

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Background

• Sustainability has become a topic of great public interest due to the progression of climate change and increased media attention given to environmental initiatives

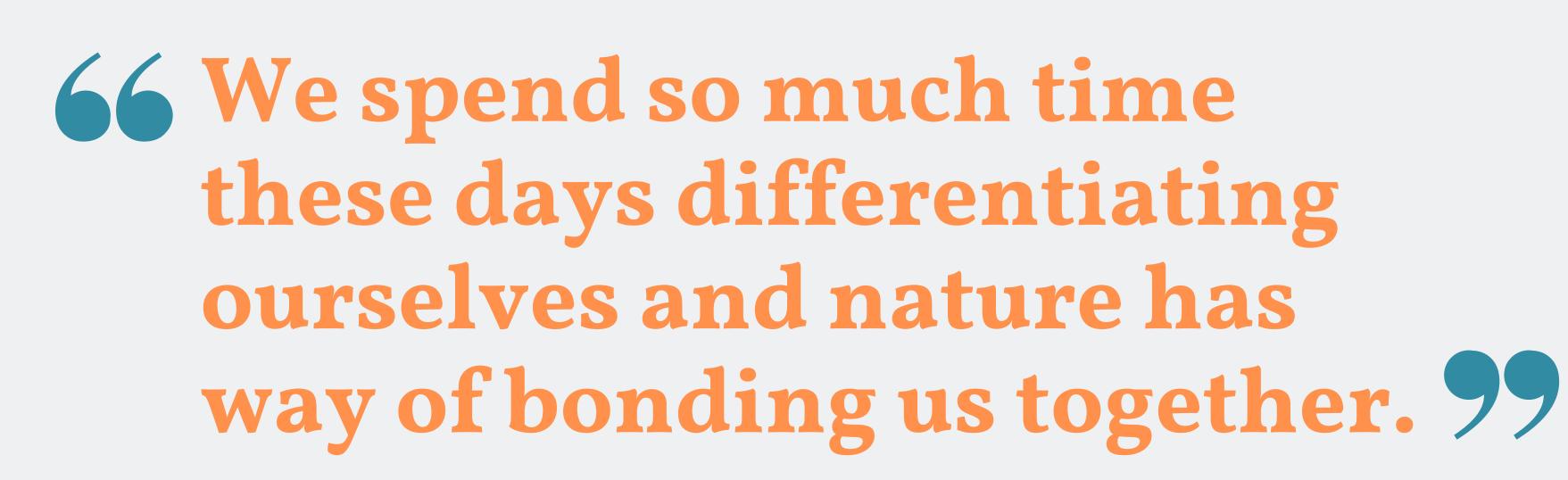
Individuals, households, and businesses aim to be more environmentally conscious

Struggle to implement alternative green practices due to the lack of resources

- Nashville, Tennessee had underdeveloped city-wide recycling and composting programs
 - Mostly lacking in areas:
 - Education to schools, community households, and workplaces
- Individuals receive training at the community level to create sustainable living education systems, which in turn empower other businesses and individuals to take part in the initiative
- Additional emphasis is placed on training non-profits to adopt sustainable workplace cultures.

Methods

- Roundtables:
 - Held bi-monthly, and these provide organizations with the resources and education to adopt environmentally-friendly practices
- Through a university and nonprofit partnership, program evaluation:
 - Highlight best practices and identify gaps
 - Design better strategies by tailoring information to neighborhoods and the working field
- The program-evaluation team tailors programming and measurement tools such as:
 - Pre-survey
 - Post-survey
 - Follow-up survey
 - Analysis of findings



-Rue Mapp Founder of Outdoor AFRO

Outcomes

- Pre-survey will be used to identify where individuals and their non-profit organizations currently are in terms of environmental practices in their organizations
- Post-survey will measure what what elements from the round table sessions have been effective and which need improvement
- Follow-up survey identify adopted practices from round table sessions and see which practices are easier to adopt

Examples

- How much support do you have in your workplace to implement sustainability measures?
- What sustainable habits do you think would be most feasible to implement after attending this Roundtable?
- Since initial
 - Since attending the Urban Green Lab Roundtable, have you initiated sustainability measures (such as recycling and purchasing from environmentally responsible companies) at your workplace?

Evaluation

- In order to evaluate elements of the roundtables three surveys will take place before each roundtable session, after the session and one year after the conclusions of the roundtable sessions
- Findings from the evaluation process will identify which components of the round tables are effective and which need to be improved
- An additional follow-up survey will be taken place, where attendees from the communities and organizations will be asked which effectiveness and gaps to address for future

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