

Sense of Shambhala – Results of Process Team Survey of the Shambhala Community

Part 2 – How do we relate to local Shambhala communities? -- Profile of Experiences with Shambhala Centres and Groups

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<https://shambhala-process-team.org/category/wg-updates/>

Overview

The 2020 Sense of Shambhala Survey was organized by an independent working group of the Shambhala Process Team. The goal of the survey was to describe where we are right now as a Shambhala community. The survey was not intended as an opinion poll or as an exercise in identifying the consensus way forward for Shambhala. Instead our intention was to listen deeply to all segments of Shambhala, to map the ground and understand how experiences and issues in Shambhala are understood by those who took the time and had the interest to respond.

In this sense, the Sense of Shambhala survey reflects the four cornerstones of the 2020 draft Shambhala Code of Care and Conduct: **Inclusivity, Transparency, Accountability and Care**. We expressed **inclusivity** by inviting responses from everyone we could identify who cares about Shambhala and has been touched by the teachings, whether or not they are current members of our Shambhala organization. In addition, we included questions on the survey that addressed the broad set of experiences relevant to being part of Shambhala. In our reporting we are expressing **transparency** by including all of the responses we received, providing the data from all questions, keeping interpretations of the findings to a minimum, and making the reports of findings readily available. We express **accountability** by taking responsibility for any omissions, flaws or failures of our survey instrument to fully reflect all of the experiences and opinions that our respondents would have liked to offer, and for any failures of our analytic team to fully comprehend and report the responses in the way they were intended. We express **care** by investing extensive resources in deeply listening to and reporting the many responses we received to the open-ended questions included in the survey, and by offering opportunities for all components of the community to engage interactively with the survey reports.

Invitations to respond to the Sense of Shambhala survey were sent to all individuals whose contact information was listed in the Shambhala Database who (1) had ever been a member of Shambhala or Vajradhatu, or, for non-members, those who (2) had completed Shambhala Training Level III, or (3) had attended advanced programs such as seminary or any of the various Assemblies (Warrior, Kalapa, Enlightened Society, Sacred World). Email invitations were sent to these 11,666 individuals and opportunities were offered to request a link to the survey to anyone else who met these criteria but did not receive a survey link automatically.

Contact information was automatically removed from the survey links that were sent out, so all responses were anonymous. The survey opened for responses on January 13, 2020 and closed on February 13, 2020. A total of 3541 respondents opened the survey, and 3093 answered the initial question. This is a 27% response rate, which is relatively high for surveys of this type. The survey was extensive, and included both close-ended (checkbox and multiple choice) questions and over 100 open-ended questions. In order to estimate the distribution of reported age and membership status of the survey sample, the same search, using the same criteria, was repeated from the Shambhala Database. These comparisons are included in Part 1 of this report.

Data from the close-ended questions are reported in three parts. Each of these parts includes tables that show the percent of respondents reporting each response, along with the total number responding.

- Part 1 presents quantitative results from the questions describing individual respondents, their characteristics, practices, challenges, feelings of marginalization and responses to the current Shambhala crisis.
- Part 2 presents quantitative results from the questions describing respondent's experience with local Centres and Groups in Shambhala
- Part 3 presents quantitative results from the questions describing respondent's experience with the larger Shambhala Mandala.

Part 4 of this report presents a detailed qualitative analysis of the many open ended questions included in the Sense of Shambhala Survey. These are being analyzed by a separate volunteer group of Shambhala community members with expertise in this methodology. Some of these responses are short, and some are quite long. All were submitted from the heart, and all are deemed equally valid in understanding the current situation in Shambhala.

Part 2: Summary of Findings

Local Centre Participation

Please note: This survey concluded in mid-February 2020, and therefore pre-dates all of the changes in centre and group activities that have occurred in relation to the global Covid-19 pandemic .

As described in Part 1 of this report, the initial question on the Sense of Shambhala survey asked respondents to describe their relationship to Shambhala in the last 12 months. The choices offered to respondents were: (1) newly involved, exploring what Shambhala has to offer, (2) minimally involved, connect occasionally, (3) somewhat involved, participate in a few activities that I am interested in, (4) actively involved, a fair amount of practice, study, volunteering, (5) extensively involved, a considerable amount of practice, study, volunteering, (6) not currently involved, and (7) I have left Shambhala.

Over 80% of all respondents and 95% of those more actively involved, including those who reported being somewhat involved, actively involved or extensively involved in Shambhala, reported relating to a local Shambhala group or centre. The proportion of newly or minimally involved respondents who relate to a centre or group was lower, overall just over 70%. Of those identifying as not involved, or having left Shambhala, still an overall 30% reported relating to a local Shambhala group or centre. (See Table 2.1.)

The two most common reasons given by the 20% of respondents who did not relate a local centre or group were distance (27% of this group), and that they did not feel connected to the community (36%). Looking only at those respondents who are current members, those who did not relate to a centre or group were split between those who listed distance as the reason, and those who listed not feeling connected (both 39%). Note that, as discussed in Part 1 of this report, we do not have a full count of all of the respondents who are current members. This is because, in the early weeks of data collection, an error in the survey instrument created a skip pattern which resulted in some respondents not receiving and therefore not answering the demographic questions.

Reasons for not relating to a group or centre varied according to level of involvement. Among the more actively involved respondents, 51% cited distance and 21% cited not feeling connected to the community as reasons for not relating to a centre or group. Among people who were not involved or had left Shambhala, 38% reported not feeling connected to the community, 24% reported not supporting local leadership, and 13% reported that they did not feel welcome at their local centre or group. Among the group describing themselves as newly or minimally involved, 42% said that not feeling connected to the community was the reason they did not relate to a local centre or group. (See Table 2.2.)

The remaining survey questions discussed in this Part 2 report were answered only by those who relate to a local centre or group.

Participation in Activities

The Sense of Shambhala survey included 11 options of activities occurring at local centres and groups, and asked respondents to indicate whether they either (1) were not interested or the activity did not apply to them, (2) the activity was not offered at their location, (3) would like to participate more, (4) participated as much as they would like, or (5) participated in the activity more than they would like. A question about participating as a paid staff member of a local centre or group was included in this list, but had different response options. Tables 2.3 through 2.14 show the responses to each activity in detail. Overall, respondents were most interested in practicing meditation and in socializing with their communities (only 7% were not interested in these activities or indicated that the activities did not apply to them). This was followed, in ascending order of disinterest or in noting that the activity did not apply to them, by studying dharma (10% not interested or not applicable), volunteering (13%), attending meetings (14%), engaging in civic projects (25%), taking a leadership role (31%), serving as a meditation instructor or Shambhala Guide role (34%), serving in a teaching role (45%), participating in a special interest group such as Queer Dharma or Young Meditators (62%), and participating as a Dorje Kasung member (72%).

Respondents indicated that they participated more than they would like in volunteering (10%) and in taking a leadership role (10%). In order of preference for activities which respondents would like to engage in more frequently were studying dharma (44%), practicing meditation (43%), socializing (32%), serving in a meditation instructor role (28%), taking a teaching role (24%), attending meetings (23%), engaging in civic projects (17%), taking a leadership role (15%), participating as a Dorje Kasung (9%) and participating in an interest group (9%).

Table 2.15 shows the reasons respondents listed for not participating more in each selected activity. Consistently, personal time pressures were selected most frequently as the reason for not participating as much as the respondent would like, but many respondents also used open-ended questions as opportunities for describing the challenges they face to more participation. Relatively few respondents chose the option of disagreement with the Shambhala organization as a reason for not participating as much as they would like. Not being invited and not feeling welcome were listed as reasons for not participating as leaders or as teachers as much as respondents would like.

The high rates of respondent participation in leadership, teaching and meditation instruction activities in local centres or groups suggest that individuals in these roles may be over-represented among survey respondents, compared to their representation in the overall population who received links to the Sense of Shambhala survey.

Opportunities to interact socially with other members:

Overall, just under half of all respondents had some opportunities to interact socially with others in their centre or group and a smaller proportion (27%) said that there were many opportunities. More of the more actively involved respondents reported many opportunities to interact socially.

Overall, 12% of respondents, but 17% of those who are not involved or who have left Shambhala said that there were insufficient opportunities to interact socially with others. Thirteen percent of all respondents, but 36% of those who were not involved or who had left Shambhala, were not interested in having more opportunities to interact socially. (See Table 2.16.)

Does the demographic mix at local Shambhala Centres and Groups reflect the demographic mix of the local area? Is this important to respondents?

Overall, 21% of respondents felt that the demographic mix of individuals at their local group or centre reflected the demographic mix of the local community. Almost half felt the mix was somewhat or very different from the local community. This issue was seen as either somewhat or very important to 79% of respondents. More of those who did not feel that the issue was important did not know whether participants in their centre or group reflected the mix of individuals in their local areas. (See Table 2.17.)

Should Centres or groups become involved in societal or environmental issues?

Overall, only 10% of respondents stated that centre or group engagement in world social and environmental issues was not important. One-third felt that this type of engagement was very important. Among members, the proportion saying this was important or very important was slightly higher. Engagement in societal or environmental issues was more important for respondents who entered Shambhala in more recent time periods. (See Table 2.18.)

Questions for Centre or Group Leaders

The following questions were asked of the 32% of respondents who identified themselves as leaders in their local centres/groups.

Difficulties faced in the preceding 18 months

Only 4% of centre and group leaders reported encountering no difficulties in the preceding 18 months. Over three quarters of leaders cited reduced program attendance. Other areas of significant impact included reduced dues revenues (70% reporting this), difficulty filling leadership or volunteer roles (61% reporting), less activity and fewer program offerings (59%) and an uncertain future (58%).

In their responses, 41% of leaders said that their membership had reduced by more than 20%. Over a fifth stated they were financially unsustainable, and a similar number that their group or centre had separated from Shambhala, or was considering doing so. (See Table 2.19).

Guidance and support from the Shambhala organization

Local leaders were asked whether centres and groups received the right amount of guidance, information and support from the central Shambhala organization, on a range of topics. On the individual elements — what programs are offered, who is invited to teach, who should assume leadership roles, how the centre or group is organised, how money is raised and spent locally, and general problem solving — between 23% and 39% of respondents overall said they did not know enough about the situation to respond. However, among those who were able to respond, the responses were fairly consistent across most of the topics. Most respondents indicated that they received enough support, and that the central Shambhala organization was not overly involved in local decision-making.

The area where respondents would like to receive more support from the central organization was in general problem solving (24%, compared to an average of 16% wanting more support in other areas). The area in which respondents would like to have less involvement from the central organization was in

who is invited to teach at the Centre or Group (22%, compared to an average of 10% wanting less involvement in other areas). (See Table 2.20.)

Questions for respondents who are not Centre or Group leaders

The following questions were asked of the 68% of respondents who identified themselves as *not* being leaders in their local centres/groups.

Opportunities to participate in decisions made by leaders in local Centre or Group

Respondents were asked whether they wanted more participation in a range of decisions made by leaders of local Centres and Groups. Answers varied depending on the decision topic, but overall, between 70% and 85% stated that they did not want to participate or were satisfied with the amount of participation they had in local decision-making. This was particularly the case for decisions about how money is raised and spent locally.

The areas where non-leaders were interested in more participation were in who is invited to teach locally (32%) and what programs are offered (30%). About one quarter of respondents wanted more participation in selection of leadership and how the centre or group is organised. (See Table 2.21).

Communication with leadership of local Centre or Group

Overall among non-leaders, over half reported being somewhat or very satisfied with the amount and quality of communication with local leadership. However, fewer of those who were inactive or had left Shambhala were satisfied with the amount or quality of communication with local leadership. (See Table 2.22).

Impact of Crisis in Shambhala on Local Centres and Groups

Across the various subgroups of respondents, by activity level, leadership role, and membership status, about 80% reported that alleged sexual misconduct and abuse, financial concerns and general upheaval in the Shambhala community had significantly impacted their centre or group. Of those from large and very large groups, 89% and 91% respectively said this was the case, compared to 69% of respondents from very small centres or groups. By region, 83% of respondents from Canada, and 82% from the USA reported significant impacts, with a slightly smaller portion reporting this from other regions. (See Table 2.23).

Respondents who felt that their local centre or group was impacted by the crisis were asked whether their centre or group had offered opportunities to process these issues. Overall, 54% responded that their centre or group had offered the right amount of opportunities for processing, and 27% felt that there were some opportunities, but not enough. Only 3% felt that there were no opportunities to process the issues of alleged sexual misconduct and abuse, financial concerns and general upheaval, although 11% reported that they did not know. These responses were fairly consistent across activity levels in Shambhala and between overall respondents and current members. (See Table 2.24).

Nearly 70% of all this set of respondents said that they saw moderate or serious divisions within their centres and groups due to disagreements about Shambhala. Among those who have left Shambhala,

the highest proportion identified these divisions as serious (54%). The numbers who saw moderate or serious divisions increased in direct proportion to centre size, with 85% of those in very large centres stating this was the case, while in small groups (10-34 members) nearly 60% reported this. The highest proportions of respondents reporting moderate or serious divisions were in Canada (74%) and Western Europe (73%). For the USA, the proportion was 67%. (See Table 2.25.)

Almost two-thirds of respondents said that seeing the international community make changes to address the roots of the divisions would help in mending relationships, and 42% said that it would be helpful to see the local community and leadership make such changes.

Just over a third of respondents felt that local in-person listening circles would be helpful in mending local divisions. Other options offered for what would be helpful in mending divisions in local centres and groups were selected less frequently. These included referral to outside counselling resources (8% saw as helpful), local online listening circles (13% saw as helpful), online meetings with members across the international community (16%) one on one meetings with trained facilitators (19%) and group compassion/social meditation opportunities (24%). (See Table 2.26.)

Part 2: Detailed Findings

Local Centre Participation

Table 2.1 Do you relate to a local Shambhala Group or Centre?

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Yes	No
Total respondents answering these questions N = 2721			
		%Each response by Activity Level	
Newly involved	12	83%	17%
Minimally involved	427	71%	29%
Subtotal	439	71%	29%
Somewhat involved	500	91%	9%
Actively involved	638	96%	4%
Extensively involved	698	97%	3%
Subtotal	1836	95%	5%
Not involved	246	39%	61%
I have left Shambhala	200	21%	80%
Subtotal	446	30%	70%
Total respondents	2721	81%	19%
Total current members answering these questions N = 1299			
		% response	
Total current members	1299	95%	5%

Observation: A large portion of respondents and of current members have relationships with local centres and groups. Those not involved or who have left Shambhala are least likely to have such relationships.

Respondents who do not relate to a local centre or group were asked the main reason that they did not have such a relationship. After responding to this question, they skipped the rest of the questions reported here, and responded immediately to the questions about relating to the international Shambhala community (results reported in Part 3 of this report.)

Table 2.2. What is the main reason that you do not relate to a local Shambhala Group or Centre?							
Activity Level	Number of respondents	Don't relate due to distance	Centre or group has dis-affiliated	My practices are not represented	I do not feel welcome there	I do not support local leadership	I do not feel connected to the community
Total respondents answering these questions N = 528							
		% Each response (checking all that apply) by Activity Level					
Newly involved	2	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	125	38%	2%	7%	8%	17%	42%
Subtotal	127	39%	2%	7%	8%	17%	42%
Somewhat involved	45	47%	7%	13%	4%	13%	31%
Actively involved	24	54%	8%	0%	4%	4%	8%
Extensively involved	22		9%	9%	9%	9%	14%
Subtotal	91	51%	8%	9%	5%	10%	21%
Not involved	151	23%	6%	7%	13%	24%	38%
I have left Shambhala	159	8%	2%	11%	12%	23%	38%
Subtotal	310	15%	4%	9%	13%	24%	38%
Total respondents	528	27%	4%	8%	10%	20%	36%
Current members answering these questions N = 64							
		% Each response, checking all that apply					
Total members	64	39%	9%	9%	11%	12%	39%

Observation: For more active and for new respondents, the most frequently checked reason for not relating to a centre or group was physical distance. For minimally involved and not involved respondents and for those who have left Shambhala, the most frequently checked reason for not relating to a centre or group was not feeling connected to the community. Current members who do not relate to a centre or group were equally split between these two responses. Lack of support for the

local leadership and not feeling welcome were also more commonly reported by those not involved and those who have left Shambhala, compared to the other respondents.

The following questions were presented only to respondents who reported that they do relate to a local Group or Centre. As noted in Table 2.1, this includes only 30% of the group of respondents who are inactive or who have left Shambhala. Note that data collection for this survey ended in February 2020, before Shambhala centres and groups moved activities online in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Table 2.3. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?						
Meditation Practice						
Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2197						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	10%	0%	40%	50%	0%
Minimally involved	302	16%	1%	59%	24%	0%
Subtotal	312	15%	1%	58%	25%	0%
Somewhat involved	455	5%	1%	55%	39%	0%
Actively involved	615	2%	1%	40%	57%	0%
Extensively involved	676	2%	0%	30%	65%	2%
Subtotal	1746	3%	1%	40%	55%	1%
Not involved	97	36%	3%	47%	13%	0%
I have left Shambhala	42	50%	0%	29%	21%	0%
Subtotal	139	40%	2%	42%	16%	0%
Total respondents	2197	7%	1%	43%	49%	1%
Current members answering these questions N = 1233						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1233	4%	< 1%	42%	52%	1%

Observation: A large majority of respondents and members engage in meditation practice at a local centre or group. Among the respondents who are not involved or who have left Shambhala, but who

still relate to a centre or group, more than half engage in meditation practice in this context. A large portion of respondents do not practice meditation with their local groups as often as they would like.

**Table 2.4. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?
Dharma Study**

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2197						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	10%	0%	50%	40%	0%
Minimally involved	301	22%	7%	50%	21%	<1%
Subtotal	311	21%	7%	50%	22%	<1%
Somewhat involved	454	12%	6%	49%	33%	<1%
Actively involved	614	2%	7%	42%	49%	0%
Extensively involved	675	3%	1%	41%	55%	0%
Subtotal	1743	5%	4%	44%	47%	<1%
Not involved	97	43%	7%	38%	11%	0%
I have left Shambhala	42	55%	12%	21%	12%	0%
Subtotal	139	47%	9%	33%	12%	0%
Total respondents	2193	10%	5%	44%	41%	<1%
Current members answering these questions N = 1231						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1231	7%	5%	45%	44%	<1%

Observation: As with meditation practice, a very large portion of respondents study dharma with their local groups or centres, although frequently not as often as they would like. About half of those who still relate locally but are otherwise not involved or who have left Shambhala study dharma with their local centre or group.

**Table 2.5. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?
Interact Socially**

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2184						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	20%	0%	20%	60%	0%
Minimally involved	299	15%	2%	48%	34%	1%
Subtotal	309	15%	2%	47%	35%	1%
Somewhat involved	451	7%	2%	36%	53%	2%
Actively involved	614	2%	2%	30%	65%	1%
Extensively involved	671	1%	2%	23%	69%	5%
Subtotal	1736	3%	2%	29%	64%	3%
Not involved	97	38%	4%	38%	19%	1%
I have left Shambhala	42	33%	2%	26%	38%	0%
Subtotal	139	37%	4%	35%	24%	1%
Total respondents	2184	7%	2%	32%	57%	2%
Current members answering these questions N = 1230						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Total current members	1230	4%	2%	31%	61%	3%

Observation: Over 60% of current members and of respondents actively involved in Shambhala engage in social activities as much as they would like. On the other hand, almost half of new and minimally involved respondents and over a third of those who are inactive or have left Shambhala reported that they interacted socially at their centre or group less than they would like.

Table 2.6. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?

Attending Meetings						
Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2179						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	20%	10%	30%	40%	0%
Minimally involved	298	32%	3%	35%	29%	2%
Subtotal	308	31%	3%	35%	29%	2%
Somewhat involved	450	18%	5%	30%	45%	2%
Actively involved	613	6%	3%	23%	65%	4%
Extensively involved	670	3%	1%	12%	72%	11%
Subtotal	1733	8%	3%	20%	63%	6%
Not involved	97	55%	5%	24%	16%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	68%	0%	20%	12%	0%
Subtotal	138	59%	4%	22%	15%	0%
Total respondents	2179	14%	3%	23%	55%	5%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1228						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1228	10%	3%	21%	59%	7%

Observation: There was a marked difference in the extent of participation in meetings at local centres and groups by activity level. Almost a third (31%) of newly or minimally involved members and over half (59%) of inactive respondents and those who have left expressed no interest in meeting participation. Among more active respondents, only 8% had no interest in participating in meetings. At the same time, almost a quarter of all respondents (23%) and a third of new or minimally involved respondents (35%) participate in meetings less than they would like.

**Table 2.7. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?
Participating in Civic Projects**

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2179						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	40%	10%	20%	30%	0%
Minimally involved	298	47%	24%	19%	9%	0%
Subtotal	308	47%	24%	19%	9%	0%
Somewhat involved	450	32%	30%	17%	20%	0%
Actively involved	612	23%	38%	18%	21%	0%
Extensively involved	670	19%	38%	16%	27%	1%
Subtotal	1732	24%	36%	17%	23%	0%
Not involved	97	54%	22%	15%	9%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	66%	20%	7%	7%	0%
Subtotal	138	57%	21%	13%	9%	0%
Total respondents	2178	29%	33%	17%	20%	0%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1228						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1228	25%	36%	16%	22%	<1%

Observation: Overall, a third (33%) of respondents report that civic projects are not available at their local centre or group. Another 29% of respondents were not interested in this type of participation; this portion was much higher among newly and minimally involved participants (47%) and inactive respondents and those who have left Shambhala (57%), but lower for more active respondents (24%).

**Table 2.8. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?
Volunteering**

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2177						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	30%	0%	20%	50%	0%
Minimally involved	298	35%	2%	32%	30%	1%
Subtotal	308	35%	2%	31%	31%	1%
Somewhat involved	450	15%	2%	31%	49%	2%
Actively involved	612	3%	1%	21%	66%	9%
Extensively involved	669	2%	1%	10%	65%	22%
Subtotal	1731	6%	1%	19%	61%	13%
Not involved	97	51%	6%	29%	14%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	56%	2%	22%	17%	2%
Subtotal	138	52%	5%	27%	15%	1%
Total respondents	2177	13%	2%	21%	54%	10%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1228						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1228	9%	1%	19%	59%	13%

Observation: Overall, more than half of respondents volunteered with their centre or group as much as they would like, but this was more frequently the case for more active respondents compared to other respondents. Among all respondents, 21% reported that they did not volunteer as much as they would like. This was reported more frequently for newly and minimally involved respondents (31%) and for inactive respondents and those who have left (27%). Ten percent of respondents overall, but 22% of extensively involved respondents, volunteered at their centre or group more than they would like.

Table 2.9. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?

Taking a Leadership Role

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2173						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	80%	0%	0%	20%	0%
Minimally involved	298	60%	2%	19%	17%	1%
Subtotal	308	61%	2%	19%	18%	1%
Somewhat involved	448	45%	2%	17%	33%	3%
Actively involved	610	21%	2%	14%	54%	9%
Extensively involved	669	7%	1%	11%	58%	23%
Subtotal	1727	22%	1%	14%	50%	13%
Not involved	97	79%	2%	12%	6%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	68%	2%	15%	12%	2%
Subtotal	138	76%	2%	13%	8%	1%
Total respondents	2173	31%	2%	15%	43%	10%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1226						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1226	25%	1%	14%	47%	13%

Observation: Half of more active respondents reported participating as leaders as much as they liked. This was less the case for newly and minimally involved respondents (18%) and for inactive respondents and those who have left (8%). Overall, 15% of respondents would like to take on leadership roles more frequently than they do, while 10% of all respondents — but 23% of those who are extensively involved — would prefer to participate in leadership roles less frequently than they do.

Table 2.10. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?

Paid Employee

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	My Centre or Group has paid staff, but I do not work there	My Centre or Group does not have paid staff	I work for the Centre or Group, but not as much as I would like	I work for the Centre or Group as often as I like	I work for the Centre of Group more than I would like
% Each response by Activity Level						
Newly involved	10	60%	40%	0%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	298	53%	44%	0%	2%	0%
Subtotal	308	54%	44%	0%	2%	0%
Somewhat involved	447	49%	47%	0%	3%	0%
Actively involved	610	33%	61%	1%	4%	1%
Extensively involved	669	33%	55%	1%	9%	2%
Subtotal	1726	37%	55%	1%	6%	1%
Not involved	96	60%	39%	0%	1%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	49%	49%	0%	2%	0%
Subtotal	137	57%	42%	0%	1%	0%
Total respondents	2171	41%	52%	1%	5%	1%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1226						
% Each response						
Total current members	1226	40%	54%	< 1%	1%	1%

Observation: Over half of respondents related to centres or groups with no paid staff. Of the remainder, 5% work as paid staff as often as they liked, 1% would prefer to do so more often, and 1% would prefer to work less than they currently do.

Table 2.11. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?

Teaching Role						
Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2169						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	90%	0%	0%	10%	0%
Minimally involved	297	64%	4%	23%	8%	0%
Subtotal	307	64%	4%	22%	8%	0%
Somewhat involved	447	57%	2%	20%	21%	0%
Actively involved	609	44%	1%	25%	30%	1%
Extensively involved	669	22%	1%	29%	46%	2%
Subtotal	1725	39%	1%	25%	34%	1%
Not involved	96	81%	5%	10%	3%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	76%	2%	20%	2%	0%
Subtotal	137	80%	4%	13%	3%	0%
Total respondents	2169	45%	2%	24%	28%	1%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1226						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1226	41%	1%	24%	32%	1%

Observation: About a third of more active respondents and current members serve in a teaching role in their local centres or groups. About a quarter of newly and minimally active, and more active respondents and current members would like to teach more often than they currently do, while very few respondents report teaching more than they would like.

Table 2.12. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?

Meditation Instructor role (includes Guides and SPMIs)

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2165						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	80%	0%	<1%	20%	0%
Minimally involved	297	49%	<1%	35%	15%	<1%
Subtotal	307	50%	<1%	34%	15%	<1%
Somewhat involved	447	48%	2%	26%	23%	1%
Actively involved	606	29%	1%	29%	40%	1%
Extensively involved	669	13%	1%	27%	55%	4%
Subtotal	1722	28%	1%	28%	41%	2%
Not involved	95	78%	1%	14%	7%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	59%	2%	22%	15%	2%
Subtotal	136	72%	1%	16%	10%	1%
Total respondents	2165	34%	1%	28%	36%	2%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1225						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1225	29%	<1%	27%	42%	2%

Observation: Over 40% of more active respondents serve in some type of meditation instructor role as often as they would like, while an additional 28% would like to do so more often than they do. Over a third of newly involved and minimally involved respondents would also like to provide meditation

instruction more than they do, and 16% of those respondents who are not involved or who have left Shambhala would like to provide more meditation instruction than they do now.

**Table 2.13. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?
Dorje Kasung**

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2165						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	90%	0%	0%	10%	0%
Minimally involved	297	80%	2%	7%	9%	1%
Subtotal	307	80%	2%	7%	9%	1%
Somewhat involved	447	79%	4%	8%	9%	<1%
Actively involved	606	75%	5%	7%	13%	1%
Extensively involved	669	60%	8%	12%	18%	1%
Subtotal	1722	70%	6%	9%	14%	1%
Not involved	95	88%	4%	1%	6%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	88%	2%	7%	2%	0%
Subtotal	136	88%	4%	3%	5%	0%
Total respondents	2165	73%	5%	9%	13%	1%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1225						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1225	72%	5%	8%	13%	<1%

Observation: About 22% of respondents overall expressed some interest in Dorje Kasungship, with interest somewhat higher among those more actively involved. Eight percent would like to participate more as Kasung, 13% participate as much as they would like, and less than 1% said they participate more than they would like. A large proportion of respondents (73%) were not interested, or felt the question did not apply to them.

Table 2.14. How much do you participate in the following activities at your Group or Centre?

Interest Group such as Queer Dharma or Young Meditators

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in this activity, or does not apply	Not available at my Group or Centre	Not as much as I would like	As much as I would like	More than I would like
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2165						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	70%	10%	20%	0%	0%
Minimally involved	297	72%	9%	11%	8%	0%
Subtotal	307	72%	9%	11%	7%	0%
Somewhat involved	447	63%	12%	12%	13%	<1%
Actively involved	606	59%	18%	8%	14%	<1%
Extensively involved	669	58%	17%	8%	16%	1%
Subtotal	1722	60%	16%	9%	14%	<1%
Not involved	95	84%	7%	7%	1%	0%
I have left Shambhala	41	78%	7%	10%	5%	0%
Subtotal	136	82%	7%	8%	2%	0%
Total respondents	2165	63%	15%	9%	13%	<1%
Current members answering this series of questions N = 1225						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1225	62%	15%	9%	14%	<1%

Observation: Participation in interest group activities was low relative to the other activities included in this series of survey questions. This is in part because these activities are not represented in some centres (15% of responses). In addition, 62% said that the special interest groups do not apply to them, or that they are not interested. At the same time 9% of respondents reported that they do not participate in these groups as much as they would like.

Table 2.15. Reasons for responding “Less than I would like” to Centre or Group Participation Questions

	Meditate at the Centre	Study Dharma at the Centre	Socialize	Attend Meetings	Civic projects	Volunteer
N respondents to this series of questions	2195	2191	2182	2177	2176	2175
N participating less than they would like	936	963	696	490	369	465
% participating less than they would like	43%	44%	32%	23%	17%	21%
Most frequently checked reasons checked (checking all that apply)						
Limited time	51%	45%	41%	46%	43%	54%
Distance to the Centre	27%	21%	25%	29%	18%	28%
Other (described in Part 4 of this Report)	23%	18%	23%	18%	15%	20%
None of the reasons listed	12%	14%	14%	15%	21%	9%
Not interested in what is offered	9%	21%	12%	6%	15%	6%
Have not been invited	1%	2%	2%	4%	5%	6%
Do not feel welcome	4%	4%	5%	4%	2%	5%
Not enough separation from Shambhala international	9%	7%	8%	6%	6%	7%

Table 2.15 (cont) Reasons for responding “Less than I would like” to Centre or Group Participation Questions

	Take a leadership role	Paid position	Take a teaching role	Take a meditation instruction role	Serve as Dorje Kasung	Active in an interest group
N respondents to this series of questions	2171	2169	2167	2164	2164	2164
N participating less than they would like	315	13	519	602	185	205
% participating less than they would like	15%	1%	24%	28%	9%	9%
Most frequently checked reasons (checking all that apply)						
Limited time	45%	46%	35%	42%	45%	48%
Distance to the Centre	19%	0%	10%	16%	17%	21%
Other (described in Part 4 of this Report)	25%	15%	29%	31%	38%	29%
None of the reasons listed	9%	15%	10%	10%	10%	8%
Not interested in what is offered	6%	15%	10%	6%	12%	19%
Have not been invited	18%	15%	28%	17%	10%	5%
Do not feel welcome	13%	0%	10%	8%	8%	4%
Not enough separation from Shambhala international	8%	0%	6%	6%	5%	8%

Observation: The most common reason (35%-48%) for not participating as much as respondents would like across all 12 of the centre activities listed in the survey was limited time. Relatively few respondents (6-9%) chose not enough separation from the international Shambhala organization as a reason for not participating in their local centres and groups. Feeling unwelcome or not invited was a concern for leadership and teaching activities in particular.

Table 2.16 Do you have enough opportunities to interact socially with other members of your local Shambhala community?

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	I am not interested in more opportunities	No, there are not enough opportunities	Yes, there are some opportunities	Yes, there are many opportunities
Total respondents answering these questions N = 2145					
		% Each response by Activity level			
Newly involved	10	40%	0%	20%	40%
Minimally involved	291	25%	12%	47%	16%
Subtotal	301	26%	11%	46%	17%
Somewhat involved	445	16%	12%	50%	22%
Actively involved	603	6%	14%	49%	30%
Extensively involved	664	5%	11%	45%	38%
Subtotal	1712	9%	12%	48%	31%
Not involved	94	37%	15%	34%	14%
I have left Shambhala	38	32%	24%	39%	5%
Subtotal	132	36%	17%	36%	11%
Total respondents	2145	13%	12%	47%	27%
Total current members answering these questions N = 1220					
		% Each response			
Total current members	1220	11%	13%	46%	30%

Observation: Overall, almost half of respondents and members felt there were some opportunities for socializing with others in their local centres and groups. Almost a third of more active respondents and members felt that there were many opportunities, but fewer of the newly and minimally involved and those not involved or who have left felt that there were many opportunities for socializing. Overall, 12% of respondents reported that there were not enough opportunities for socializing, but this was reported by 17% of those who were not involved or who have left.

Table 2.17 Does the mix of individuals who are part of your Centre or Group reflect the mix of people who live in your area, and is this important to you?

I don't know	Very different	Somewhat different	A mix	Somewhat similar	Very similar
Consider this issue not very important N = 461 (21%)					
35%	9%	21%	13%	15%	7%
Consider this issue somewhat important N = 955 (45%)					
16%	13%	34%	15%	18%	4%
Consider this issue very important N = 729 (34%)					
6%	33%	28%	13%	14%	6%
Total respondents answering these questions N = 2145					
17%	19%	29%	14%	16%	5%

Observation: Over three-quarters of respondents (79%) felt that it was somewhat or very important that the mix of individuals who are part of the Centre or group reflect the mix of people who live in their location. Among those who thought this was important, the majority felt that the mix of people at the centre or group did not represent the mix in their area, while 20% reported that the mix was similar. Among those who did not feel this was important, 35% reported that they did not know the mix at their local centre or group.

Table 2.18 How important is it to you that your centre or group become engaged or remain engaged in the social and environmental issues impacting the world?

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Total respondents answering these questions N = 2145					
		% Each response by Activity Level			
Newly involved	10	0%	20%	70%	10%
Minimally involved	291	13%	26%	28%	33%
Subtotal	301	13%	26%	29%	32%
Somewhat involved	445	9%	27%	31%	34%
Actively involved	603	9%	27%	30%	34%
Extensively involved	664	10%	27%	28%	35%
Subtotal	1712	9%	27%	30%	34%
Not involved	94	13%	34%	29%	24%
I have left Shambhala	38	8%	24%	32%	37%
Subtotal	132	11%	31%	30%	28%
Total respondents	2145	10%	27%	29%	33%
Total current members answering these questions N = 1220					
		% Each response			
Total Current members	1220	9%	27%	30%	35%
Total respondents with demographic data answering these questions N = 1621					
		% Each response			
When Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche was teaching	441	10%	30%	32%	29%
Between 1987 and 1999	316	9%	25%	31%	35%
Between 2000 and 2009	409	9%	26%	26%	39%
Between 2009 and 2017	434	7%	26%	30%	37%
2018 to present	21	5%	33%	43%	19%

Observation: Ninety percent of respondents felt that engagement in social and environmental issues was important for their local centre or group, and a third thought this was very important. Responses were very similar across all activity levels, and for current members. However, respondents who

entered Shambhala more recently considered the engagement in social and environmental issues more important than those who entered in earlier time periods.

Questions for Centre or Group Leaders

The following questions were asked of respondents who identified themselves as being leaders in their local centres or groups. Out of a total of 2155 respondents who answered these series of questions, 681 (32%) respondents identified themselves as local leaders.

Table 2.19 Have you experienced any of the following at your centre or group in the last 18 months (check all that apply)

Total respondents answering these questions N = 681			
None of these	4%	Fewer volunteers	64%
Reduced program attendance	77%	Difficulty filling leadership positions	61%
Membership reduced more than 20%	41%	Changes to local governance structure	37%
Dues revenue reduced	70%	Challenges or inability to retain physical space	23%
Less activity and fewer program offerings	59%	Uncertain future	58%
Separated from Shambhala, or considering doing so	21%	Other	16%
Financially unsustainable	22%		

Observation: All but a small minority of leaders reported that their groups or centres have been affected by the issues that have occurred in Shambhala in the last 18 months (preceding the pandemic). The most frequently reported experience was reduction in program attendance, followed by a reduction in dues revenue. Over half of respondents felt that their group or centre faced an uncertain future. Twenty-two percent reported their situation as financially unsustainable, 23% had challenges retaining a physical space, and 21% were considering separating from Shambhala.

Table 2.20 Interaction between local Centre and Group leaders and the international Shambhala organization

	Does your centre or group get enough information, guidance, and support from the international Shambhala organization on the following issues?			Do you feel there has been too much involvement or control from the international Shambhala organization on the following issues?		
	No, we would like more	I don't know	Yes, we get enough	No, they are not overly involved	I don't know enough to answer	Yes, there is too much
Total respondents answering these questions N = 681						
About the programs that are offered	16%	33%	50%	61%	23%	16%
Who is invited to teach	17%	34%	49%	54%	23%	22%
Who should assume leadership roles	15%	39%	46%	64%	25%	11%
How the Centre or Group should be organized	17%	35%	47%	61%	25%	13%
How money is raised locally	18%	32%	50%	65%	26%	8%
How money is spent locally	11%	35%	54%	67%	26%	7%
General problem solving	24%	37%	39%	66%	30%	4%

Observation: About one-third of leaders report being unsure whether they receive enough support and guidance from the international Shambhala organization, and about a quarter report being unsure whether there is too much involvement by the Shambhala organization in local decision-making. However, the majority who were familiar with these relationships were satisfied with their current status. Compared to other topics, leaders reported preferring more support for general problem solving, and less involvement on who is invited to teach.

Questions for respondents who are not Centre or Group leaders

The following questions were asked of 1474 (68%) of the respondents who identified themselves as *not* being leaders in their local centres or groups.

Table 2.21. Do you feel that you have enough opportunity to participate in decisions made by the leadership of your local Centre or Group in the following areas?

	I would like more opportunity to participate	I am not interested in participating in these decisions	I have enough opportunity to participate
Total respondents answering these questions N=1474			
About the programs that are offered	30%	26%	44%
Who is invited to teach	32%	33%	35%
Who should assume leadership roles	23%	35%	42%
How the centre or group should be organized	23%	36%	41%
How money is raised locally	15%	45%	39%
How money is spent locally	19%	43%	38%
General problem solving	24%	31%	45%

Observation: The majority of respondents who were not local leaders feel that they have enough opportunity to participate in local decision-making, or are not interested in this type of participation. There was the least amount of interest in increased participation in issues around fundraising (15%) and expenditures of funds (19%). There was the most amount of interest in increased participation in decisions about programming (30%) and teacher invitations (32%).

Table 2.22. How satisfied are you with the amount and quality of communication that you have with the leadership of your Centre or Group

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Very unsatisfied	Somewhat unsatisfied	A mix	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
Total respondents answering these questions N = 1578						
		% Each response by Activity Level				
Newly involved	10	20%	0%	10%	50%	20%
Minimally involved	280	10%	10%	24%	25%	30%
Subtotal	290	10%	10%	23%	26%	30%
Somewhat involved	394	8%	11%	24%	27%	29%
Actively involved	416	15%	9%	18%	23%	35%
Extensively involved	243	9%	12%	24%	22%	33%
Subtotal	1053	11%	10%	22%	24%	32%
Not involved	93	19%	8%	32%	22%	19%
I have left Shambhala	38	32%	11%	21%	11%	26%
Subtotal	131	23%	8%	29%	18%	21%
Total respondents	1578	11%	10%	23%	24%	31%
Total current members answering these questions N = 782						
		% Each response				
Total Current members	782	11%	10%	22%	24%	34%

Observation: Overall among respondents and members who are not local leaders, 55% were somewhat or very satisfied with the amount and quality of communication that they had with local leaders, and

20% were less than satisfied. Respondents who were inactive or who had left Shambhala expressed less satisfaction (31% somewhat or very unsatisfied) with communication with local leadership compared to other groups of respondents.

Impact of Crisis in Shambhala on Local Centres and Groups

Table 2.23 Have sexual misconduct and abuse allegations, financial concerns and general upheaval in the Shambhala community significantly impacted your Centre or Group?

	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Yes	No	I don't know
Total respondents answering this series of questions N = 2141				
		% Each response by Activity Level		
Newly involved	10	40%	20%	40%
Minimally involved	290	78%	7%	15%
Subtotal	300	78%	7%	16%
Somewhat involved	445	76%	9%	15%
Actively involved	601	79%	14%	7%
Extensively involved	663	83%	12%	5%
Subtotal	1709	80%	12%	8%
Not involved	94	72%	3%	24%
I have left Shambhala	38	84%	3%	13%
Subtotal	132	76%	3%	21%
Total respondents	2141	79%	11%	10%
		% Each response by leadership status		
Leaders	676	84%	12%	4%
Non-leaders	1465	77%	10%	13%
Total respondents with demographic data N = 1620				
		% Each response by membership status		
Current member	1219	83%	10%	8%

Table 2.23 (cont) Have sexual misconduct and abuse allegations, financial concerns and general upheaval in the Shambhala community significantly impacted your Centre or Group?

	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Yes	No	I don't know
Previous, not current member	219	81%	5%	14%
Part of the community, not a member	45	69%	11%	20%
Previously part of the community, not a member	16	75%	0	25%
Other	121	86%	7%	7%
Total respondents with demographic data N = 1620				
		% Each response by Centre size		
I do not belong to a Centre or Group	19	68%	11%	21%
I do not know the size of my Centre or Group	89	65%	10%	25%
Very small (1-9 members)	87	69%	16%	15%
Small (10-34 members)	273	76%	18%	6%
Medium (35-74 members)	408	79%	11%	10%
Large (75-125 members)	389	89%	4%	7%
Very large (125+ members)	355	91%	3%	6%
Total respondents with residence data N = 2102				
		% Each response by region where you reside		
Africa	5	80%	20%	0%
Asia and Oceania	25	68%	20%	12%
Canada	436	83%	8%	9%
Central America and Mexico	12	75%	0%	25%
Eastern Europe	46	63%	35%	2%
Western Europe	357	69%	20%	11%
Middle East	3	33%	33%	33%
South America	29	69%	24%	7%
United States	1189	82%	8%	11%

Observation: Overall, 79% of respondents reported that the sexual misconduct and abuse allegations, financial concerns, and upheaval had a significant impact on their local centres and groups. Leaders, those who are affiliated with larger centres, and those residing in Canada (83%) and the USA (82%) reported an impact slightly more frequently than other respondents.

The following questions were asked of those who reported that their Centre or Group was significantly impacted by the crisis in Shambhala.

Table 2.24. Has your local Centre or Group offered opportunities to process these issues? (sexual misconduct, abuse, financial concerns, and general upheaval in Shambhala)						
Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Don't know the answer	No	Yes, but not enough	Yes, the right amount	Yes, but too many
Total respondents answering these questions N= 1909						
		% Each response by Activity level				
Newly involved	8	37%	12%	0%	50%	0%
Minimally involved	269	16%	4%	28%	48%	4%
Subtotal	277	17%	4%	27%	48%	4%
Somewhat involved	404	12%	3%	30%	51%	4%
Actively involved	520	7%	4%	27%	60%	2%
Extensively involved	581	5%	2%	25%	60%	8%
Subtotal	1505	8%	3%	27%	57%	5%
Not currently involved	90	37%	3%	26%	29%	6%
I have left Shambhala	37	22%	5%	35%	35%	3%
Subtotal	127	32%	4%	28%	31%	5%
Total respondents	1909	11%	3%	27%	54%	5%
Total Current members answering these questions N = 1098						
		% Each response				
Total current members	1098	7%	3%	29%	57%	4%

Observation: Almost half of minimally involved and new respondents, and over half of more active respondents reported that they had the right amount of opportunities to process issues related to the crisis. Fewer of those who were not currently involved or who have left Shambhala felt that they had the right amount of opportunities, but almost a third of this group did not know what opportunities were offered. Very few respondents reported having no opportunities, and very few felt that the issues had been discussed too often.

Table 2.25. Do you observe divisions among members of your local Centre or Group because of disagreements about Shambhala

Activity Level	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Not at all	Mild divisions	Moderate divisions	Serious divisions
Total respondents answering these questions N = 1909					
		% Each response by Activity level			
Newly involved	8	37%	50%	12%	0
Minimally involved	269	11%	22%	33%	35%
Subtotal	277	11%	23%	32%	33%
Somewhat involved	404	8%	28%	29%	35%
Actively involved	520	7%	24%	37%	32%
Extensively involved	581	3%	22%	36%	38%
Subtotal	1505	6%	24%	35%	35%
Not currently involved	90	20%	17%	28%	36%
I have left Shambhala	37	16%	5%	24%	54%
Subtotal	127	19%	13%	27%	41%
Total respondents	1909	8%	23%	34%	35%
Total current members answering these questions N = 1098					
		% Each response			
Total current members	1098	5%	24%	34%	37%
Total respondents answering these questions N = 1474					
		% Each response by size of Centre or Group			
I do not belong to a Centre or Group	17	12%	6%	47%	35%
I do not know the size of my Centre or Group	79	16%	25%	28%	30%
Very small (1-9 members)	72	17%	33%	33%	17%
Small (10-34 members)	224	10%	31%	33%	26%
Medium (35-74 members)	364	5%	25%	34%	36%
Large (75-125 members)	374	4%	22%	37%	37%
Very large (125+ members)	344	2%	12%	31%	54%

Table 2.25 (cont) Do you observe divisions among members of your local Centre or Group because of disagreements about Shambhala					
Region of Residence	Total number of respondents answering this series of questions	Not at all	Mild divisions	Moderate divisions	Serious divisions
Total respondents answering these questions N = 1881					
		% Each response by region where you reside			
Africa	4	50%	25%	25%	0%
Asia and Oceania	20	40%	15%	40%	5%
Canada	404	6%	20%	34%	40%
Central America and Mexico	12	17%	33%	33%	17%
Eastern Europe	30	3%	40%	23%	33%
Western Europe	288	7%	20%	33%	40%
Middle East	2	0%	0%	50%	50%
South America	22	14%	32%	23%	32%
United States	1099	8%	25%	34%	33%

Observation: Overall, a third of all respondents reported observing serious divisions within their local centres or groups around disagreements in Shambhala. This portion was higher among those who were not active or who had left Shambhala (41%), higher among those in very large centres (54%), and higher in Canada and in Western Europe (both 40%), compared to other settings.

Table 2.26. Would any of the following be helpful in mending relationships in your Centre or Group? (check all that apply)			
Total respondents answering these questions N = 1913			
None of these	8%	One-on-one meetings with trained facilitators	19%
Group compassion or social meditation	24%	Referral to outside counseling resources	8%
Local in-person listening circles	34%	Seeing your local community and leadership make changes to address the roots of these divisions	42%
Local online listening circles	13%	Seeing the international community make changes to address the roots of these divisions	65%
Online meetings involving members across the international community	16%	Other (open-ended question)	27%

Observation: The actions most frequently selected as being helpful in mending relationships within local centres and groups were having the international Shambhala community make changes to address the roots of the divisions (65%), and having the local community do so (42%). About a third of respondents thought local listening circles would be helpful, and more than a quarter of those commenting responded in open ended questions, to be reported in Part 4 of this report.