

LISTENING TO THE PEOPLE WE SEEK TO HELP IS:



RIGHT

People have important insights to offer about their own lives—insights that too often go unheard.



SMART

Feedback from the people we seek to help makes our work better.



FEASIBLE

There are now more tools available that enable better, more efficient listening.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS FUNDERS LISTEN:



THE CHICAGO
COMMUNITY TRUST
AND AFFILIATES

On the Table: this community wide conversation invites residents to reflect and share their ideas, hopes, and individual and collective commitments to strengthen the region. Now in its fourth year, the platform has engaged 195,000 participants and has been replicated in nearly two-dozen cities.



The James Irvine
Foundation

Community Listening

Sessions: partnered with nonprofits to speak directly with over 400 California residents about their lives, hopes, and challenges. They are using the findings to inform their grantmaking.



Feedback Fund: funded nonprofits to develop tools and films—and conduct research and training—to better listen to the needs of young people.



Diva Centers: IDEO.org partnered with Marie Stopes International to talk with and listen to adolescent girls in Zambia about their lives. This led to the creation of the Diva Centers—and an increase in use of family planning services.

WAYS TO START NOW:

- ♥ Talk with the people you are ultimately seeking to help.
- 📺 Fund nonprofits to listen to the people they serve.
- 🗣️ Ask nonprofits you fund what they are hearing from the people they help.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS:



Explore the work of the Fund for Shared Insight, and its signature initiative, Listen for Good.



Support YouthTruth to listen to the perspectives of students.



Learn how others are listening to the people they seek to serve across the globe at Feedback Labs gatherings.

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