

## *Listening Is an Act of Love* Journal Writing Assignments

1. Create a Word document entitled “My Life Story.” (Add your first name to the name of the document when you save it.)
2. Each week during our project, you will have an opportunity to add sections to this document by answering your choice of questions from the lists below.
3. Choose **one or two** questions from each section, and write a paragraph (or more) for each of your answers. Please only write about experiences you are willing to share with other classmates.

### **CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY**

- When and where were you born?
- Where did you grow up and what was it like?
- Tell me about your parents.
- Do you have any siblings? What were they like growing up?
- How would you describe yourself as a child? Were you happy?
- What is your best memory of childhood? Worst?
- Did you have a nickname? How did you get it?

### **SCHOOL AND EDUCATION**

- What are your best memories of grade school or high school? Worst memories?
- Did you enjoy school?
- What kind of student were you?
- What would you do for fun?
- How would your classmates remember you?
- Was there a teacher or teachers who had a particularly strong influence on your life? Tell me about them.
- Do you have any favorite stories from school?

## **FAMILY HERITAGE**

- What is your ethnic background?
- Where is your mom's family from? Where is your dad's family from?
- What traditions have been passed down in your family?
- Who were your favorite relatives?
- Do you remember any of the stories they used to tell you?
- What are the classic family stories?

## **IMMIGRATION EXPERIENCE**

- Why did you come to the United States?
- What is your first memory of your arrival? Was it different than what you expected?
- Did you live anywhere else before coming to Minnesota? Describe what it was like.
- How is Minneapolis different from your home country?
- What do you like best about Minneapolis? What do you like least?
- Where did you first learn English? What is the most difficult part of learning a new language?
- Do your parents speak English? Do your children speak English?
- Are there any special memories you would like to share?

## **I HAVE A DREAM**

- What are your dreams and aspirations for the future?
- How is Northside ABE helping you to achieve your goals?

## **GENERAL**

- What are the most important lessons you've learned in life?
- What are you most proud of?
- What was the happiest moment of your life? The saddest?
- Is there something about yourself that you think no one knows?
- Is there anything else you would like to add?