

## Discoverables, not deliverables

Turning gifts into actions!

By Dee Brooks





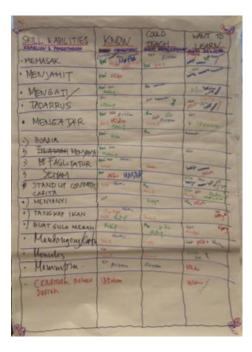
One way to discover the gifts that you, and others, can offer your community is through an exercise we call the "5H's" (you can find examples of how you might facilitate this as an activity by clicking on the link above). Based on the ABCD Institute's "Head, Hand, Heart" activity, it encourages people to explore their hidden talents, skills and passions and explore how they can, or already do, share those with others.



Once these gifts have been uncovered, and there will be A LOT, you can follow these simple but powerful steps to get these gifts organised into practical action!

## **Broad Steps:**

- A. Create four (4) columns on a flip chart sheet (stick multiple sheets together if working with a large group; you'll need them)
- B. Add people's responses to the Gifts exercise in the first column, as a list
- C. Grab a dark coloured marker and turn the list of Gifts into a grid across all the columns (see picture below)
- D. Invite people to grab a pen and come forward to write their name in each of the appropriate boxes where they know about something, could (or are willing to) teach, or want to learn.



SIT BACK AND WATCH THE MAGIC!!!

(Example from the SILE project, Makassar and Surabaya, Indonesia)







## Below are two (2) examples:

- 1. A broad, open Gift list as detailed in the exercise above
- 2. A focused, themed list, as required

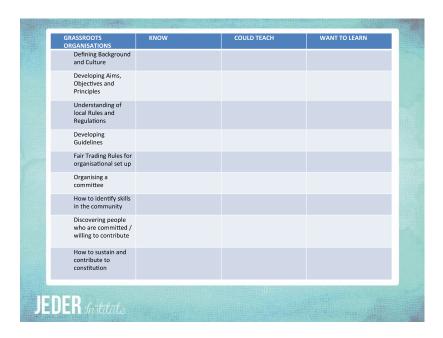
	Strengths Survey
SEVA	– Empowering Communities
For this project, we to share with each people to find other things to help each There are two way with them and the	by community members have skills, talents or time they would be happy to share with others. It are asking about what's required to start up a grassroots organisation, what skills we have other and how we can support each other with challenges. We want to make it easier for ers with similar interests and concerns and discover interesting experiences to try out new other or help the communities syou can fill out the survey. You can either sit with one of the project workers, go through it y can fill it out for you or you can take it home, fill it out and return it. Filling in this survey is urself to anything; you will always have the opportunity to decline any requests.
Name	
Phone	
E-mail address (if u	sed)
Address	
Please indicate wl	nich things you know, which things you would be able to teach others, and which things you would like to learn.
DER Sostal	

SKILLS & ABILITIES	KNOW	COULD TEACH	WANT TO LEARN
Language skills			
Computer literacy			
History			
Cooking			
Music/Drama/Dance			
Storytelling			
Games/Sports			
Administrative/ organizational skills			
Leadership			
Communication			
Understanding the culture of a group			
Handy work			
OTHER			

These examples are from a project I worked on with an ABCD mate, Om Dhungel, in Sydney, Australia. The project was empowering refugee and asylum seekers to share their skills, talents and abilities and work together for common good. As you can see below, the group particularly wanted to look at how to start up a grassroots organisation.







The incredible discovery from this exercise was that they already had what they needed in the room, through the skills, talents and abilities of the various community members. The buzz in the room was palpable and the excitement grew over the next few months as these participants shared their findings back to their communities and started to gather more assets and stories.

This is how we start discovering the hidden treasures in community! This is what the glass half full looks like! This is how we build community from the inside out!

It's as easy as ABCD!