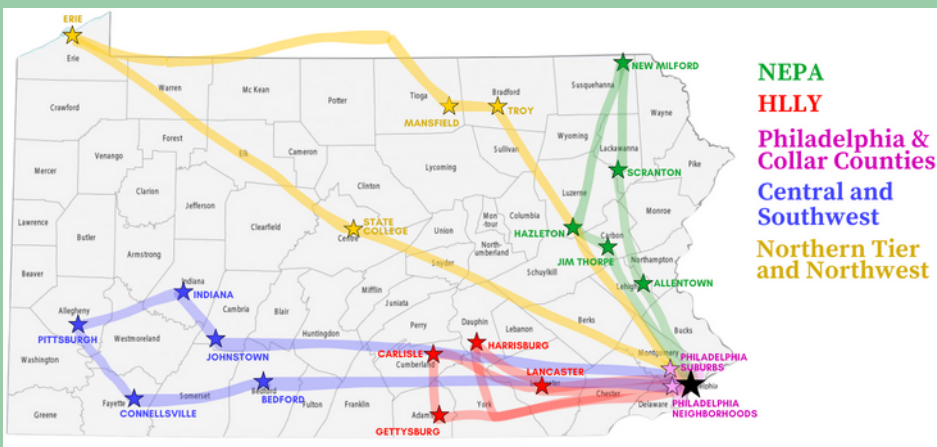


POLITICAL EMPATHY LAB

not canvassing or polling, just
~listening~

Overview

From its intricate relationship with the iron, steel, and railroad industries, to being home to “America’s Poorest Big City” (WHYY), the state of Pennsylvania is home to a series of complicated narratives. As a result, the University of Pennsylvania’s Political Empathy Lab embarked on a journey to connect with folks from counties across the Commonwealth using concepts of democratic listening and political empathy to contextualize the issues Pennsylvanians care about the most.



Map by Autumn Cortright.

A map of the five trips the 2024 Political Empathy Lab cohort (7 student researchers and Dr. Lia Howard) embarked on.



cohort pit stop in Erie, PA



on the road!



exploring the PA state Capitol



lunch with Don Cunningham

In just 10 weeks, members of the Political Empathy Lab...

- travelled **2475.7 miles**
- spent **120+ hours** on the road
- traversed through **7 media markets**
- held **60+ conversations**

“Bring people **together**, and they’ll awaken to their **common humanity**. A similar thought led Mark Twain to quip, ‘**Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness**, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts.’”

~ Jamil Zaki, *The War for Kindness*



Scan the QR code to learn more!