Images from Futel installations, media samples, and interactive work.

Elijah St. Clair and Karl Anderson in front of a public Futel installation.



Elijah St. Clair taking an operator call from a user of a public Futel phone during an open house at the CTRL-H hackerspace in Portland.



Information plates used on the front of Futel phones, designed by Debbie Wager.

PLEASE DIAL ALL DOMESTIC CALLS



NO COIN NEEDED FOR ANY CALLS
Call anywhere in the Contintental USA for \$0.00
Emergency SOS ... Dial 911 Operator ... Dial 0

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At Futel, we believe in the preservation of public telephone hardware as a means of providing access to the agora for everybody, and toward that goal we are privileged to provide free domestic telephone calls, voicemail, and telephone-mediated services. We do not judge the motivations of our users, or who they choose to call; if they don't have someone to call, we can provide a presence on the other end. Denial of telephony services has long been a tactic used against undesirable populations, and our devices will counteract that. But more importantly,

NO COIN NEEDED FOR ANY CALLS

we will help to establish a new era of communication, one in which reaching out is not only desirable, but mandatory. We are primarily driven by the basic needs that we see on the streets every day, by giving something away that is cheap for us but valuable to the recipient. But we hope that we can also build a tower of Babel on top of that, a monument of telephones and switching networks and cascading psychological structures which will give the community something else as well, something we may not appreciate until it has forever changed us.



Setting up an installation at ToorCamp, Neah Bay, Washington, 2014.

