

Community Power Grantees: Statement on Evaluation



The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) prides itself in supporting strategic and independent evaluations that meet the highest standards for scientific integrity and adhere to equitable evaluation principles. Our evaluations focus on supporting shared learning between the Foundation and our grantees to help us understand how we are doing and provide insights about how we can make adjustments to increase our impact in the future. RWJF's evaluations are also designed to help inform our partners in the field who are working on related issues.

The evaluation of this grant is a critical component in our efforts to better understand the potential for organizations building community power to advance health equity. A successful evaluation will require an independent research team that can match technical evaluation expertise and organizational capacity with significant experience working directly with community organizations and members, as well as a commitment to the principles of equitable evaluation.

RWJF believes that shared learning begins with a collaborative relationship between the Foundation and our grantees. We anticipate that grantees will play an active role in the evaluation design and administration. Grantee participation may include, but may not be limited to: (1) collaborating on the selection of the evaluation team; (2) contributing insights to the evaluation on: design, approach, measures, and evaluation outcomes, defining capacity and infrastructure for building community power, the overall strategy, and theory of change for the relevant program; and (3) participating in: basic data collection, surveys, interviews, learning conversations throughout the grant cycle, the collection of relevant material on strategy, media and communications, networks, technical assistance and support, dissemination, and learning activities.

Grantee participation is crucially important for the success of our learning efforts and ensuring the learning can serve as a benefit to the broader field. We strongly encourage you to engage in the evaluation, since we know it will produce deeper insights for all of us. We are conscious of grantee burden, and we will be mindful of the commitment for you and your organization. Resources are also available if your team needs to be compensated for your time and participation.

Re-grants: To the extent you have re-grants in this program, their insights are important to our learning efforts, as well. During the course of the grant, we may survey them; ask them to share basic data that they already collect; and/or ask them to participate in focus groups or interviews. We can compensate them for their time, if needed.