**Developmental Evaluation as an Equity Tool**

**to Shift the Funder-Grantee Power Dynamic  
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from Informing Change**

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| ***Hypothesis:*** | *Developmental evaluation can serve as an equity tool that helps to bring funders and grantees into closer alignment on their learning goals, which in turn can lead to greater or deeper impact for both parties.* |



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| Working Definitions / Glossary | |
| Developmental Evaluation | "Developmental Evaluation [helps]… to guide adaptation to emergent and dynamic realities in complex environments.” (Patton, 2010) |
| Equity | Merriam-Webster’s definition: “fairness or justice in the way people are treated.”  For our purposes: Both funder and grantees have the support they need to be successful in their work. |
| “Power” in the Funder Dynamic | The inherent dynamic between a funder and grantee. By nature of distributing money to a grantee (often through a competitive application process), the funder may have “power” over a grantee. |
| Alignment | Merriam-Webster’s definition: “the proper positioning or state of adjustment of parts in relation to each other.”  For our purposes: Bringing funders and grantees closer together to enact common goals and have a shared vision for their work together. |

Discussion Questions

1. Who benefits, and how, in the funder-grantee dynamic?
2. How might developmental evaluation serve as an equity tool in the funder-grantee dynamic?
3. What would get in the way of developmental evaluation as an equity tool and how would you handle that?

Notes / sketches / drawings