

MACP Programs Equitable Evaluation Commitments.

This is a statement of our aspirations for our evaluation and evaluative work* at MACP, and our commitment to working toward these and to share these with our grantee partners. This is a working document with statements that will evolve and emerge as we learn and grow.

We ground these commitments in the [MACP DEIJ Vision](#) that states “we envision a future in which our philanthropic resources and relationships help remove systemic barriers that limit access to opportunity and marginalize people within communities, as well as help empower and support them as agents of the change they seek. In this way, our joint efforts deepen and sustain the impact we work to achieve.” This vision encompasses all we do – including evaluation and evaluative work.

The purpose of evaluation and evaluative work in MACP Programs is to generate knowledge that contributes to the ability of people in communities to make change, to support grantees’ evaluation priorities, and to deepen MACP’s learning to improve our grantmaking practices and our strategies. These commitments guide our thinking about evaluation, data collection, and tracking, and inform our approaches to doing and supporting equitable evaluation work with grantees. First and foremost, we seek to do and support evaluation and evaluative work that has value for grantees, and the communities where they work. At the same time, we seek learning that we can directly apply with our grantee partners in order to make community-level impact.

The first three statements are the Equitable Evaluation Initiative™ Framework Principles. We commit to these three principles, and added four commitments that describe how we are currently living into these at MACP.

- **“Evaluation and evaluative work should be in service of equity.”¹**
- **“Evaluative work should be designed and implemented commensurate with the values underlying equity work – multiculturally valid, oriented toward participant ownership.”²**
- **“Evaluation work can and should answer critical questions about the:**
 - **ways in which historical and structural decisions have contributed to the condition to be addressed.**
 - **Effect on strategy of the underlying systemic drivers of inequity.**
 - **Ways in which cultural context is tangled up in both the structural conditions and the change initiative itself.”³**

¹ Equitable Evaluation Initiative™ Framework

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

- **MACP commits to working more equitably in HOW we do evaluation - to shift long-held power and process imbalances in evaluations and evaluative work; acknowledge our role in these imbalances; and develop skills to work more equitably with grantees and communities.**
- **MACP commits to working more equitably in WHAT evaluative work we initiate – to be transparent with our point of view about evaluative work with grantee partners; and by learning from grantees about when to do, and how to fund, evaluation projects that center community voices.**
- **MACP commits to being ready to change and let go of evaluations and evaluative work that does not bring value to communities, grantee partners or our own learning. We don't need to evaluate every MACP program, strategy, approach or grant in order to know and tell an impact story.**
- **MACP commits to establishing methods that hold us accountable to each other and with our partners, including soliciting regular feedback and sharing our progress. And as we learn from the work we are doing, we will update our commitments.**

*evaluation and evaluative work includes evaluation projects and all aspects and activities that lead up to and go into projects, e.g. sourcing consultants, developing theory of change, use and collection of data, etc.

References:

[MACP Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice Vision.](#)

[Shifting the evaluation paradigm](#): The Equitable Evaluation Framework™, 2021

[Doing evaluation in service of racial equity](#) W Kellogg Foundation & Community Science, 2021.

MACP Philosophy of Grantmaking.

MACP Evaluation Principles and Practices.